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GENEALOGY  
OF THE  
McKEAN FAMILY  
OF PENNSYLVANIA,

WITH A BIOGRAPHY OF THE

HON. THOMAS McKEAN, LL.D.

MEMBER OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS FROM DELAWARE,  
CHIEF JUSTICE AND GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
SIGNER OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, AND PRESIDENT OF  
CONGRESS.

---

BY ROBERDEAU BUCHANAN,

AUTHOR OF THE GENEALOGY OF THE ROBERDEAU FAMILY  
THE DESCENDANTS OF DR. WILLIAM SHIPPEN

---

WITH AN INTRODUCTORY LETTER

BY THE

HON. THOMAS F. BAYARD.

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TO THE

HON. THOMAS F. BAYARD, LL. D.

WHOSE DISTINGUISHED SERVICES

IN THE COUNCILS OF THE NATION AS A SENATOR,

AND

AS SECRETARY OF STATE

OF THE UNITED STATES

HAVE REFLECTED ESPECIAL HONOR UPON THE STATE OF DELAWARE,

**This Biography**

OF

“THE LEADING DELEGATE FROM DELAWARE”

IN

THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS,

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED, BY HIS OBEDIENT SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.



## INTRODUCTORY CORRESPONDENCE.

---

THE AUTHOR TO THE HON. THOMAS F. BAYARD, LL. D.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 23, 1889.*

TO THE HON. THOMAS F. BAYARD, LL. D.

*Dear Sir:*

Having in course of publication a *Life of the Hon. Thomas McKean, LL. D.*, who for a number of years was the "leading delegate from Delaware" in the Continental Congress, and also a Signer of the Declaration of Independence; it would give me much pleasure if you will permit me to dedicate the same to you, as a slight mark of my appreciation of the services you have in later days rendered, in many important positions, not only to the State of Delaware, but to our country at large.

I have the honor to enclose proof pages of the work as far as yet printed; and, with your approbation, will from time to time send the succeeding pages as they are received from the printer.

I have the honor to be, with much respect,

Yours very truly,

ROBERDEAU BUCHANAN.

---

REPLY OF THE HON. THOMAS F. BAYARD.

WILMINGTON, DEL., *March 25th, 1890.*

*Dear Sir:*

Since receiving your letter of December 23d, the proof sheets of the "*Life of Thomas McKean, LL.D.*," have been duly sent me, and I now congratulate you upon the successful completion of your labors.

I accept with pleasure the honor of your dedication, and as an American, especially as a citizen of Delaware, I am justly proud to be thus associated with the Memorial of a patriot, statesman, and jurist, so distinguished as Thomas McKean.

In this State Mr. McKean commenced his professional and public career; as a Representative of this community he was delegated, together with his compatriot, Cæsar Rodney, to the Stamp Act Congress of 1765; and from that time onward until American liberty and independence were firmly secured, he was

continuously invested with the highest public trusts which the people of this State could bestow ; all of which he executed with a fidelity and ability which awakened the grateful admiration of his constituents, and secured for him the highest popular esteem.

To him is due the high distinction of serving longer and more continuously than any other member of the Continental Congress, in the stormy and eventful years of the struggle for our independent National existence.

To this it may be added that his assiduity was equalled by his courage, discretion and ability in the "times that tried men's souls."

In parliamentary bodies, declamatory vigor and selfish assertion, contenting itself with sharp criticism upon the work of others, may, and often do, give distinction and sometimes an undeserved reputation with the public ; while the patient, self-controlled and steady labor that formulates and constructs is recognized and appreciated only by the "singular few," who quietly take part in the real work of State building, and to whom mankind are chiefly indebted.

In this sober class of unselfish and conscientious constructors of our republican system, Thomas McKean must be ranked among the first.

As his kinsman and descendant, you have performed a pious duty in compiling with simple accuracy, a full and faithful record of the life-work of your ancestor ; and the picture you have given of his private as well as of his public character and career is just and true.

As a citizen, you have done public service in contributing an important chapter in the veritable history of laying the foundations of the government whose blessings we now enjoy, and which it is the duty of each of us to assist in transmitting unimpaired to posterity. I am, dear sir,

Respectfully and truly yours,

T. F. BAYARD.

*To Roberdeau Buchanan, Esq.,  
Washington, D. C.*



## PREFACE.

---

THE author has the honor of presenting herewith to the McKean family, the GENEALOGY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF THE HON. THOMAS McKEAN; hoping it may give as much pleasure to its readers as it has given to him in its compilation.

Since boyhood the author has been interested in family history, carefully collecting names and preserving such facts, dates, biographies, newspaper articles, memoranda of books, etc., as came under his notice; and in this slow way was continually adding to his chart of the family, intending at some future time that his researches should be published. The active preparation of this genealogy, however, dates from the fall of 1885, when he proposed to complete the work as a contribution for THE SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, in course of preparation by Frank Willing Leach, Esq., of Philadelphia. That publication having been delayed on account of the magnitude of the work, and the present genealogy having much exceeded the compass of such a contribution, these pages are now given to the public independently, and in accordance with the author's original design.

As to the plan of the work, it is that usually adopted by American genealogists. In families possessing a title or entailed landed estates, a single line of descent is often followed to the exclusion, partially or wholly, of collateral relatives. In this plan, which is followed by Burke in England, Browning's Royal Descents, and Keith's Provincial Councillors, members of a family are separated, while generations are kept together. It necessarily becomes impracticable, intricate, and confusing when there are long biographies, when the family is large, or when all the descendants are to be included. Therefore the plan adopted by the best genealogists in this country, and which is decidedly the clearest and simplest, is to classify each generation by itself, and the members thereof in strict order of primogeniture. Upon this system the work proceeds chronologically, the earlier generations first, the later at the end of the book; names of persons appear first as children under the

biography of their parents, and subsequently as parents of the next generation. Names thus repeated are accompanied by a running Arabic number for convenience of reference and identification. A little examination will readily show how a line of descent may, by these numbers, be traced upward to find the ancestors, or downward to find the descendants.

Some good genealogists, after the name of a person, give in brackets the names of all his ancestors, which the author considers useless and cumbersome. It is of no use to the person himself, for he knows his own ancestors; nor to another person, for he can readily ascertain the pedigree by the running numbers. The use of exponent figures denoting the generations, the author also considers to be generally superfluous; it has been restricted in this work to the index, and but sparingly used there. By these omissions the author is confident that he has not sacrificed clearness of reference.

Search in libraries for everything that may be in print concerning the family, and especially in regard to Governor McKean, has been thorough, and on account of the prominence of our ancestor and of several other members, has been very laborious, as the references will show. A few good works, with poor indices, or none at all, have been reluctantly cast aside, from the labor and time necessary to consult them. A book without an index is like a man who has lost his mind.

Being accustomed to mathematical precision in his professional avocation, accuracy has been the author's great aim in this work, especially as to dates; he has, therefore, upon all occasions endeavored to verify every statement, date and book reference; in several instances where persons claimed to have graduated at college, a reference to the quinquennial catalogues showed that they did not graduate; all college degrees here mentioned have therefore been verified by the college catalogues. Mistakes and discrepancies are common in printed books, but they have also been found, when least expected, in such public records as church registers, cemetery records, in the Navy Department records, on tombstones, in family Bibles, etc. Between the journals of Congress and the Articles of Confederation the author has discovered a discrepancy in a date, and old publications have added a third date, which is difficult to account for. The published journals of

Congress are very inaccurate and misleading, especially in regard to the Declaration of Independence. So far as the author has compared, the printed journals do not agree with the rough manuscript journal, *which is the standard*, in wording, punctuation, or capitalization: the substance is of course correct. So numerous have been the mistakes discovered and corrected, and so perplexing the discrepancies which the author has been unable to reconcile or correct, that they have all been entered in Appendix II.

Whenever it was found necessary to transpose or change the wording of an author, to add or omit portions of his work, quotation marks have been omitted. The author or book is, however, in such cases always referred to.

All doubtful facts are plainly so stated in this genealogy; the New England McKeen pedigree and the letter of Robert Buchanan are given to preserve the facts from loss, hoping that some future genealogist may find use for them as clews for a more complete history of the family in those early times.

In the biography of Governor McKean, the author began by taking Sanderson's fine biography as a foundation, but soon rejected that plan, and quoted the work with other authors; he has reluctantly been obliged to transpose Sanderson's biography and rearrange it so as to place the facts in chronological order, as well as to bring together all the writers upon one topic before taking up the next. This comparison of various authors has been the means of correcting several mistakes in Sanderson which have been copied by all succeeding biographers (Appendix II). By the use of some extraneous matter, and explanations, have been brought into a connected account, several topics that in Sanderson's biography seem to have no connection. Minute details, so far as accessible, poetry, anecdotes, and other trivial matters often neglected by the severe historian, have been made use of; for it is these unimportant matters which make us feel acquainted with another, and give a clearer insight into his life and character.

Of the signing of the Declaration of Independence,—an intricate subject, which has been discussed by many able men, including Peter Force, Webster, Winthrop, Bancroft, and lastly Judge Chamberlain, it is belived that an abstract of all that has been written upon the subject is here given.

Through the courtesy of the Assistant Secretary of State, and

the other gentlemen, the author has been accorded the especial privilege of photographing the original Manuscript Journals of Congress in the handwriting of Charles Thomson—an especial favor, since these Journals are among the most valuable records in the archives of the State Department, and have never before been reproduced in fac-simile. Doubtless but few historians have seen the originals, since permission from the Secretary of State is required even to inspect them; and trusting to the inaccurate published copies, many writers have been led into error, or else have found discrepancies they could not explain. It is hoped, therefore, that these fac-similes may help to elucidate matters, that long ago should have been made clear.

Permission to photograph the Journals was given while pages 39 and 45 of the present work were being set in type; and merely a few verbal changes could be made in the text. It was found subsequently that the negatives were too delicate to be photo-lithographed; they were consequently reproduced by the Moss process in New York.

The first fac-simile is the Rough Journal, with the Declaration of Independence displayed, reduced three-eighths size. Here may be seen the wafers attaching it to the page—the names of John Hancock and Charles Thomson *in print*—and at the top of page 95 of the Journal, the following clauses *omitted in the printed copies*:—

“Ordered That the declaration be authenticated & printed

“ That the committee appointed to prepare the declaration superintend & correct the press.”

It will be noticed, that the names of the fifty-six Signers, and the clause preceding them in the printed journals, are nowhere to be found. Compare the fac-simile with the text opposite.

The second plate is a portion of the above on a larger size, and from a second negative, half size.

The third plate is the page of the Secret Journal relating to the engrossed declaration, half-size; the interlineation is plainly seen. By comparison with the printed journal, the latter will be found faulty in the kind of type used, as well as in spelling.

Several offices and appointments held by Governor McKean, and other facts not heretofore mentioned in his biographies, are

here given; and at the cost of some repetition, the numerous estimates of Governor McKean's character, by various authors, have all been inserted; but scattered through the biography to avoid weariness to the reader. An apology may be due for the long accounts of the impeachment trials, of Mr. McKean's seat in Congress, and perhaps some other portions that may appear tedious. They are retained here, hoping to make this biography of Governor McKean a standard, wherein may be found, in full, all information that is known of him and that has appeared in print.

On account of Governor McKean's prominence as one of the framers of this government, his biography may be of interest beyond the comparatively limited sphere of a genealogy; it has therefore been bound separately, entitled *Life of the Hon. Thomas McKean, LL.D.* Portions also relating to the signing of the Declaration, rearranged with some omissions, have been bound as a pamphlet, entitled *Observations on the Declaration of Independence.*

Regarding the later generations, the author has corresponded with at least one member in each family. Some have furnished quite full information, and others have not. It may be that of some persons in private life but little is to be said. Facts recorded here will be preserved for posterity, and if any important facts are withheld and lost it is not the fault of the author. The genealogy is, however, complete as to *all descendants* of Governor McKean.

Finally, to all members of the family the author returns his sincere thanks for their co-operation; and especially to Miss Anna M. Bayard, Mrs. Rosa McK. Hotchkiss, His Excellency, the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, Madrid, Mr. Henry Pettit, Mr. Henry Pratt McKean, and Mr. John T. Lewis. Also to many others, among whom may be mentioned the Hon. George Bancroft, Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard University, Judge Mellen Chamberlain, of the Boston Public Library (for especial favors); to Frank Willing Leach, of Philadelphia, and Dr. John R. Quinan, of Baltimore, J. Guthrie Smith, Esq., of Mugdock Castle, Milngavie, Scotland, for letters and information.

To the Hon. William F. Wharton, Assistant Secretary of State, and to Frederick Bancroft, Esq., Chief of the Bureau of Rolls and Library, the author is especially indebted for their concurrent permission, to photograph the manuscript Journals of Congress,

for copies of letters, and for much other information officially furnished from the Department records. And in no less degree is the author indebted to S. M. Hamilton, Esq., of the Bureau of Rolls and Library, for facilities in making the above mentioned photographic negatives; and also for opening to the author's inspection not only the original Articles of Confederation, but also numerous letters and papers of the revolutionary period, in the archives of the Department, and for much information, unofficially and very cordially given.

The author is also under obligations to various other gentlemen for information from the records of the Navy Department; Confederate Archives; and Secretary's office, U. S. Senate. To the Scots Charitable Society of Boston; the Hibernian Society of Philadelphia; and the Pickett-Buchanan Camp of Norfolk, Va.; to Mr. A. R. Spofford, Librarian, and the attendants at the Congressional Library; the librarians and others of the State, War, Navy, Treasury, and Interior Departments; Patent Office, and Bureau of Education; also the Pennsylvania Historical Society, City Library, and Athenæum, of Philadelphia; Astor Library of New York; Long Island Historical Society, of Brooklyn; Maryland Historical Society and Peabody Library, of Baltimore; Lehigh University Library, Bethlehem, Pa.; the Masonic Library, 33d Degree, and Lowdermilk's Antiquarian Bookstore, Washington, D. C.,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November*, 1889.

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# GENEALOGY

OF THE

## McKEAN FAMILY.

---

### HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION AND PEDIGREE.

---

It seems to be the custom of most genealogists in this country, to include in their histories an account of all persons bearing the surname of which they write; and in consequence of the magnitude of their works, they are frequently obliged to omit the descendants of females bearing other surnames. I consider that this is not the correct plan upon which to write a genealogy: First, because such a work should, if possible, contain the names of *all* the descendants of one person, whether bearing the original surname or not; and secondly, because families having no relation whatever to one another, are by this plan frequently grouped together; for an identity of surnames is not always a sign of kinship.

Of the name McKean we may say that the prefix has its counterpart in every age, and in almost every language. As early as Biblical times we read, for example, *Joshua son of Nun*, in later days, *John son of William*, or by transposition *John, William's son*. Hence *Williamson, Johnson, Jackson, Peterson*, etc. We also have the above genitive case giving *Williams, Johns* or *Jones*, etc. This form is not confined to the English alone, but is found in perhaps every other language. The Hebrew *ben* gives *Benjamin, Benson, Benoni*; the Syriac *bar* gives *Barrow*, which stands for *Baruch, Bartholomew*, etc.; Latin *filius*, and its Norman corruption *Fitz*, (as *Fitzjames* in the *Lady of the Lake*,) to which the Russian *witz* seems to have some affinity; the Polish *sky*; Welsh *Ap*, which is the Celtic *Mâb*; German *Von*; Dutch

*Fan*; French *de*; and lastly the Scotch *Mac*, and the Irish *Mac* and *O'*. Of these, *Mac* and its contraction *Mc* and *M'* denote a *son*, and the *O'* a *grandson*, or in a broader sense, a *descendant*.

#### THE FAMILY IN IRELAND.

Located in Ulster county there is a family O'Cahan, whose descendants bear the name of Kean, Keen, and other corruptions. We are not descended from this stock, however, but from the Scotch Clan McDonald, Lords of the Isles, as will appear by the following interesting letter<sup>1</sup> from Robert Buchanan of Cincinnati, now deceased:

CIN: 29 July 1851.

JOHN McKEEN, ESQ.

Dear Sir: I write by our mutual friend Mr. Owen, to say, that living in the country at present, I have not sufficient access to my Library to make full inquiry into the history of your Scottish ancestors; but this much I have ascertained beyond a doubt, that they came in a direct line from the great Clan McDonald—Lords of the Isles, one of the most powerful of the clans of the Highlands of Scotland. This clan traces its history to its progenitor "Coll-Vuais"<sup>2</sup> one of the Chieftains of Ireland about a century before our Saviour's Nativity, who took possession of the Western Coast and Islands of Scotland, and became the founder of his clan which increased in power and numbers so greatly, as to dispute the throne of Scotland with the King, and to defeat him in battle about the year 262.

But to come down to about the time when your family branched off,—It was in the reign of Alexander the 1st of Scotland. The Chief's name then was Sumerled, his successor was Rannald, and Rannald's son was Donald. Donald had two sons, Angus his successor, (and Alexander the progenitor of the MacAlesters or "sons of Alexander"). Angus had two sons, Alexander his successor, and John ancestor of the McIans or McEans of Ardnamurchan in Argyleshire. Here the McIans or "Sons of John" lived for many generations, emigrating to Ireland and different parts of the kingdom, as the family increased; but always claiming to belong to the Clan McDonald, and taking part in all its battles.

The Clan McDonald had many other branches besides the

<sup>1</sup> Now in possession of Miss F. A. McKeen, of Brunswick, Me., daughter of John McKeen. See also *O'Hart's Irish Pedigrees*, Dublin, ed. 1887; and Browning's *Americans of Royal Descent*, Ped. XXXVI., note.

<sup>2</sup> Browning's *American Descents*, quoting *O'Hart's Irish Pedigrees*, gives his name Coll-Vuais, the 121st monarch of All Ireland.

McIans and the McAlesters, viz: McIvors, McNabs, McAphics, McIntires, &c., &c., &c.

I will write to you further on this subject when I remove to the city, in the winter. In searching over my Library, I will doubtless find something in this way to interest you.

Very respectfully,

R. BUCHANAN.

No attempt has been made by the author to verify the statements contained in this letter, or to trace the origin of the family in the mother country.

#### THE McKEENS OF NEW ENGLAND.<sup>1</sup>

The first emigrants to this country settled in New England, a later emigrant went to Pennsylvania. That these two were nearly related, is extremely probable from several considerations; but no absolute proof of the fact can be found. I have much hesitation in recording a doubtful pedigree; (doubtful however only as to its being the pedigree of the *Pennsylvania* branch.) But as there are not only one, but several facts tending to show this relationship, the following account is given, in hopes that some one may hereafter succeed in finding the connecting link. It is a curious bit of history, and it is believed that the historical details have not before been published. It was written by Judge Levi McKeen, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.<sup>2</sup>

"The first knowledge we have of the McKeen family is after the murder of Archbishop Sharp, when the Covenanters were brought before the military tribunals and questioned as to their loyalty. The shibboleth upon which life and death depended was, 'Was the killing of Archbishop Sharp murder?' If the examinant was ambitious of a crown of martyrdom he would answer, 'no,' when immediate execution was done upon him.

"At this time William McKeen, who appears to have been an agriculturalist, was brought before Claverhouse, and upon the question being put, answered, he 'was nae lāāyer and coold na tell,' but that he understood 'it was an unlafoo' deed.' This was a new answer, and for the present he was dismissed, when he fled

<sup>1</sup> Originally and correctly spelt *McKean*, as explained on a subsequent page.

<sup>2</sup> As given in the Family Record of Dr. W. E. Coale, where the name is spelled *McKean*; but it having been pointed out by James McKeen, Esq., of New York, after reading these pages in MS., that Levi McKeen never so spelled the name, and it probably having been changed in copying, the spelling *McKeen* is here restored.

to Ireland, where, with many others, he founded a Scotch colony in the county of Ulster. At this time the family of David Cargill (the Martyr) emigrated thither.

"The son of the foregoing William McKeen was an actor in the defense of Londonderry. He was sent out with a party to forage during the siege, but falling into an ambuscade, was overcome, plundered, thrown into a ditch, and left for dead; but after some time he revived and found himself stripped, and nothing left but an old hat, which the plunderer had thrown away.<sup>1</sup>

"This one, called *William y<sup>e</sup> Soldier* had, 1st. James, born 1665, great-grandfather (father to the grandfather) to the writer (Levi McKeen), called *The Justice*; 2d. John, father to Levi's grandmother; 3d. Gennette or Annis, who married Rev. James McGregor; and one or two other sons, named either Robert, Joseph, or William.

"James y<sup>e</sup> Justice, by his first wife, had sixteen children. . . ."<sup>2</sup>

"It is known that James and John, sons of William y<sup>e</sup> Soldier, left in Ireland one or two brothers—the better opinion is but one, and that was the grandfather of Governor McKeen, and his name was Robert, William, or Joseph.

"The McKeens originally removed to Ireland under the assurances of the London Company, that they would enjoy their religion freed from taxes and tithes. In this they were deceived. They therefore determined to send delegates to make inquiries into the condition of this country; and try, if possible, to find a place where they could settle as a colony all together, in one place. They sent the Rev. James McGregor and another clergyman named Holmes, who came to this country in 1716 or 1717; and as McGregor was a very eloquent preacher, and there was no material difference between this doctrine and those of the Congregationalists of New England, he was most flatteringly received, and wrote back letters encouraging his friends to remove. When James and John closed their concerns, from their wealth and influence, they became y<sup>e</sup> leaders of an expedition that sailed September, 1718, in five ships, for Boston, where they had a flattering reception from y<sup>e</sup> Governor and public authorities."

Following here in the manuscript quoted from is a genealogical chart, in which the name *Thomas y<sup>e</sup> Signer*, duly

<sup>1</sup>These commotions in Ireland are very fully recorded in the *History of Londonderry*. See also Futey and Cope's *History of Chester County*. The siege of Londonderry lasted eight months, in 1688-89.

<sup>2</sup>Here follows an account of the descendants of James (whose second wife was Annis Cargill) and of John, among whom most prominent are Judge Levi McKeen, Joseph McKeen, LL. D., first President of Bowdoin College, Rev. Silas McKeen, of Belfast, Maine, Hon. Samuel McKean, United States Senator from Pennsylvania, and Samuel Dinsmore, sometime Governor of New Hampshire.

appears in his proper place as grandson of the later emigrant William.

The genealogical portions of this manuscript, but not the historical details, are published with many additions in the *History of Londonderry, N. H.*, by Rev. Edward L. Parker, 1851, where the name is universally written *McKeen*, except in the final clause, as follows:

“William McKeen, brother of Justice McKeen, born in Ireland in 1704, came to America eight or nine years after the emigration of 1718 and settled in Pennsylvania. His grandson was Thomas McKean, Signer of the Declaration of Independence, and for nine years Governor of Pennsylvania.”

In the *History of the Town of Antrim, N. H.*, by Rev. W. R. Cochrane, 1880, the same genealogy of McKeen, including the last quoted clause, is given.

In the *History of Windham, N. H.*, by Leonard A. Morrison, 1883, and in the *History of Acworth, N. H.*, Rev. J. L. Merrill, 1869, the same genealogy and spelling is given, but the Pennsylvania branch is not mentioned, except the son William, the emigrant.

In the *History of the Town of Amherst, N. H.*, Daniel F. Secomb, 1883, the name is given McKean, and the Pennsylvania emigrant mentioned.

In addition to the above quotation, a recent letter to the author from Miss Philena McKeen, gives the following extracts from the writings of Judge McKeen (chiefly a letter of October 10, 1842), and of her father, the Rev. Silas McKeen.

“‘William McKeen emigrated from Ireland and settled in London township, Chester county, Pennsylvania. The house he lived in is yet in good repair (1842). After the death of his wife Letitia, who died in 1742, he removed to the State of Delaware, New Castle county, where he died November 18, 1769, aged 65 years.’

“There has been a tradition in the branch of the McKeen family settled in New England that their ancestor, James McKeen, one of the first settlers of Londonderry, went south to Philadelphia, or that part of the country, to visit a *brother* who had come from Ireland and settled there, who is believed to be this William, the father of Governor McKean, of Pennsylvania (S. McK.).

“Judge Levi McKeen says, ‘It is universally believed among the McKeanes of Pennsylvania that there is a relationship between them and those of the same name at the East.’ The name is

spelled differently, but that is mere incident. The original spelling is undoubtedly as they have it."

It will be noticed that the latter quotations confuse William the *father* of Thomas McKean, with his *grandfather*, whose name is unknown, (unless he be that younger brother of James and John.) It is true, however, that the father was an immigrant.

James McKean, esq., of New York city, grandson of the President of Bowdoin College, informs the author that the change of name occurred by a mistake in spelling it with the double *ee* in the commission of Justice McKean, and he and his descendants ever after adopted that form. The same gentleman states that the relationship with the Pennsylvania branch was often spoken of in his family, and narrates the following incident:

"My father (Mr. Joseph McKean) called, many years ago, upon one of the Philadelphia McKeans. My father did not give his name or card. The servant, however, announced to the gentleman of the house that his *brother* was in the drawing-room. As my father was born in 1787, he was not very far removed from a common ancestor (if there was such).

As a counterpart to this, the author has often heard his father and other relatives speak of the strongly hereditary McKean likeness in the Pennsylvania family.

It will be noticed that some of the descendants of the New England branch have reverted back to the original spelling of the name.

#### THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE TWO FAMILIES.

I will now recapitulate the grounds for believing in the relationship between these two families: 1st. The New England family believe the fact. 2d. They state that it was also believed by the Pennsylvania family; unfortunately however, there are no manuscript genealogies or letters known to me among the descendants of the latter family, that could be appealed to in corroboration of this statement. 3d. Similarity of Christian names William, Robert, James and John, (Robert occurs as one of the sons of John, who was son of William the soldier, and also as a brother of Thomas McKean.) 4th. The dates of birth are in accord with the statement; James the eldest son born in 1665, and William, father of Thomas McKean his probable nephew, was born 1707, a difference of

42 years, which allows a few years for the birth of the unidentified younger son, and 33 years for the next generation. 5th. The New England family came to Ireland under the auspices of the London Company; and we find the Pennsylvania branch settled in New London, which (according to the exhaustive *History of Chester County, Pa.*, by Judge John Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope) is said to have been so named on account of lands of that company located there. 6th. The New England family after landing in Boston located in New Hampshire, calling the settlement Londonderry, after the town they had left in the north of Ireland. Likewise we find, according to the above named *History of Chester County*, that that county was settled chiefly by Scotch Irish, and only a few miles from New London, there is another Londonderry, also named after the same Irish town. These two latter facts point to a similar origin of the two families. 7th. The New England family have shown an early interest in the Pennsylvania branch, the date of death of William McKean being given by them November 18, 1769, aged 65, which is the only source from whence I have found this date. They also record the death of his wife Letitia in 1742, which is the only knowledge we have of that date. 8th. William Cobbett, the political writer, as will be quoted in another place, states that Governor McKean's *grandfather* was the immigrant, confirming the statement in Levi McKean's manuscript. 9. The strong hereditary family likeness in the Pennsylvania branch, and the incident above narrated. Thus we have strong grounds for asserting a very *probable* relationship of these two branches.

#### THE PRONUNCIATION OF THE NAME MCKEAN.

The pronunciation of this name, by the Pennsylvania branch, is the original and correct form, as if spelled *Mac Kane*. *Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer of the World*, Philadelphia, 1886,<sup>1</sup> gives it as if written *mak-keen'*. *Webster's Unabridged Dictionary*, 1888, likewise gives it *mă-keen'*. These authors are both wrong for this reason: proper names, especially of persons, do not always follow the usual rules of a language. That pronunciation is correct, in whatever way the owner of a name customarily pronounces it; the custom of

<sup>1</sup> The editor of this work upon reading this paragraph in manuscript accepted the statements here made, and remarked that he will correct future editions of the *Gazetteer* accordingly.

Governor McKean, the most widely known man who has borne the name, is sufficient authority for lexicographers. Moreover, the peculiar spelling of the name *McCain*, in the will of Governor McKean's grandmother, is sufficient to settle the matter as to the pronunciation. The Pennsylvania family has always pronounced it as if spelled *McKane*, which is the original and correct pronunciation. *McKeen* is later, and a corruption. It should, however, be recognized as *one* of the forms by the above rule, but not the *only* form of pronunciation.

During his gubernatorial contest, the political friends of Governor McKean made his name rhyme with *green* and other similar words, for which he should not be held responsible. And it was once related to the author by a friend,<sup>1</sup> that when Governor McKean was on the bench, George Sergeant, the eminent lawyer, was promptly rebuked by him for stating during an argument before the Supreme Court, that "the Chief Justice is sure to see into the matter as I explain it, for he is what the last syllable of his name implies," *i. e. keen*.

#### THE MCKEANS OF PENNSYLVANIA.<sup>2</sup>

The earliest authentic account we have of those known to be our ancestors is in 1725, in which year Susannah McCain was settled upon a 300-acre tract of land in New London township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, which had been surveyed in 1720 for William Reynolds. The land now lies mostly in Franklin township. In her will, dated December 28, 1730, she speaks of herself as "now living, and blessed be Almighty God for the same, in the congregation of New London." Her death occurred less than two months after. Whether she was a widow before leaving Ireland, or whether the above mentioned William McKean was her husband and emigrated with her, is unknown. In her will, she mentions her children:

- |      |                 |  |
|------|-----------------|--|
| i.   | WILLIAM MCCAIN, | } To whom she devises her land in equal parts.   |
| ii.  | THOMAS MCCAIN,  |  |
| iii. | BARBARA MURRAH, | her daughter.  |
| iv.  | JOHN CRAGHTON,  | her son, also spelled Creaghton [perhaps by a former marriage]. This son died in December, 1731. In his own will he signs his name Crighton, and mentions his brothers, William and Thomas McKane, sister Bar- |

<sup>1</sup> Mark Wilks Collet, Esq., of the Philadelphia bar, who had the anecdote from one of the Sergeant family.

<sup>2</sup> *History Chester County, Pa.*, Judge John Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope, 4<sup>o</sup>, 1881.



bara Murray, to whom he left his plantation, and Margaret.

- v. MARGARET, married to John Henderson, whom Susanna McCain alludes to as her son-in-law.
- vi. JAMES MCKEAN is mentioned, who may have been another son.

WILLIAM MCKEAN, the eldest son, was born in Ireland in 1707. He is mentioned, together with his brother Thomas, in relation to a considerable dispute about some land in New London township. He married Letitia Finney, daughter of Robert and Dorothea Finney, of Thunder Hill, who died in 1742. He remained in New London, and kept an inn in what is now Chatham until 1741, in which year he petitioned for license in Londongrove, an adjoining township, which was refused, but he was allowed to sell "beer and syder"; the license was finally granted the same year. In this year, Thomas McKean, brother of William, purchased a tavern and was licensed to keep an inn at Tredyffren. At the beginning of the Revolution he owned property at Chatham.

In 1745, William McKean removed to Londonderry, succeeding James Logan as tavern keeper there, and married the widow Anne Logan, who died in 1751. William McKean died November 18, 1769, aged 65 years, according to Levi McKean's manuscript. (The History of Londonderry states that he was born in 1704, a discrepancy of three years being noticed between this date and the date of his birth above given.)<sup>1</sup>

William McKean left issue (so far as known) by his first wife, Letitia Finney:

- i. ROBERT, born July 13, 1732, N. S. He studied medicine, and also entered the ministry, and was a missionary at New Brunswick, N. J. He is the author of an address to Governor Hardy on his arrival, in 1761; and with five others signed an Address to the Clergy of the Church of England, November 5, 1761. He married a daughter of Edward Antill, the Councillor. In February, 1763, he removed to Perth Amboy, with his commission as missionary. He officiated as missionary there and rector of St. Peter's church for four years, teaching a school in connection with the church, and died October 17, 1767, leaving an excellent character both as a clergyman and physician. A monument was erected over his remains at St. Peter's church, Perth Amboy, by his brother Thomas.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. The wills mentioned are recorded in West Chester, Chester Co.

<sup>2</sup> *Contrib. to Early Hist. Perth Amboy*, Wm. A. Whitehead, 1856, pp. 177, 183, 225-7-8, 291; *N. J. Archives*, 1st Ser., ix., 338, 340; *A Collection of Amer. Epitaphs*, Rev. Timothy Alden, N. Y., 1814, v., no. 1045.

- ii. THOMAS, born March 19, 1734, of whom presently.
- iii. DOROTHEA, married John Thompson, of Delaware,<sup>1</sup> and had :
  - 1. THOMAS McKEAN THOMPSON, Secretary of State of Pennsylvania under Governor McKean, and an able supporter of the Governor in his conflicts with the Legislature.
  - 2. ELIZABETH, married Col. William McKennan, removed to Washington, Pa., and had :  
 Thomas McKean Thompson McKennan, member of Congress 1831-9, '41-3; Secretary of Interior, 1850, resigned. His eldest son, William McKennan, is now U. S. Circuit Judge, 3d Circuit. His son, John D. McKennan, Esq., is a member of the Pittsburgh bar.
- iv. WILLIAM.

## THE FINNEY FAMILY.

ROBERT FINNEY, born in Ireland about 1668, came to America with his wife Dorothea and children as early as 1720, and settled in New London township, Chester county, Pennsylvania. He purchased of Michael Harlan, in 1722, the Thunder Hill tract of 900 acres, for which a patent was granted him August 4, 1733. Tradition says that he was one of the defenders of Londonderry, and at the battle of the Boyne 1690, and was left for dead on the field. He recovered, dreamed of the land he was to purchase, emigrated to America, and recognized it when he saw it. He was a ruling elder in the Elk River Presbyterian congregation, now known as the Rock Church, Maryland, and the first ruling elder and chief founder of the New London Presbyterian church, in Chester Co. He died in March, 1755, *aet.* 87. Dorothea Finney died May, 1752, *aet.* 82. They are buried in the graveyard at Thunder Hill.<sup>2</sup>

Their children so far as known are :

- i. JOHN, settled in New Castle, Delaware, a physician, also Justice of the peace, and Judge of the Orphans' Court, Lt. Col. of a Regiment of Newcastle Co.; married Elizabeth French, a descendant of Joran Kyn.<sup>3</sup> After her death, he married Sarah Richardson, who *d. s. p.* Dr. Finney died March-April, 1774, leaving at least

<sup>1</sup> From letter of John D. McKennan, Esq., who adds that Governor McKean had but *one* sister.—*Penn. Mag.*, vii., 464, should therefore be corrected to read *Dorothea*, not *Lætitia*.

<sup>2</sup> (*Hist. Chester Co.*, Futhey and Cope, p. 547; *Penn. Mag.*, iv., 234 *et seq.*) *Bench and Bar of Phila.*, J. Hill Martin, p. 22 *et seq.* A history of the Finney family is in course of preparation by Robert S. Finney of New York.

<sup>3</sup> *Penn. Mag.*, iv, 234 *et seq.*

four children, of whom the eldest was David Finney, a lawyer at New Castle, and Justice of Supreme Court of Delaware for New Castle.

- ii. ROBERT, physician, who inherited Thunder Hill, d. about 1782.
- iii. LAZARUS, m. Catharine Simonton, d. about 1740, and left issue.
- iv. LETITIA, married William McKean, father of Governor Thomas McKean, as above noted.
- v. WILLIAM, m. Jane Stephenson, d. 1751, left issue.
- vi. THOMAS, m. Mary ———, d. about 1767, left issue.
- vii. ANN, m. John McClenachan, of New London.

#### OTHER FAMILIES OF MCKEAN.

The following families and persons are not related to Governor McKean's family so far as known:

Frederick G. McKean, Chief Engineer U. S. N., family name formerly McKeon.

James Bedell McKean, b. 1821, County Judge in N. Y., Rep., from N. Y., Ch. Justice of Utah (G. A. Townsend, in Washington Sunday Capital, Dec. 21, 1879, wrongly calls him a grandson of Governor McKean).

Joseph McKean, D. D., LL. D., 1776-1818, Prof. Rhetoric, Harvard University.

Thomas Jefferson McKean, grad. West Point, U. S. A., res. 1834, bvt. Major-general Vols., 1861-5.

William V. McKean, of the Philadelphia *Ledger*.



# FIRST GENERATION.

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## 1. THOMAS McKEAN.

THE subject of this biography<sup>1</sup> was the son of William McKean and Letitia Finney, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He was born in New London township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, March 19, 1734, old style. After an elementary instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic, Thomas and his elder brother Robert were, at the ages of nine and eleven years respectively, placed under the tuition of the Rev. Francis Allison, D. D., a man of character and reputation.

### STUDIES LAW.

After passing through the regular course of instruction here, and acquiring a knowledge of the practical branches of mathematics, rhetoric, logic, and moral philosophy, Thomas went to Newcastle in Delaware, and entered the office of his relative David Finney, as a law student. Some months after, he engaged as clerk to the prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas; a situation which enabled him to learn the practice while he was studying the theory of the law.

So great was the reputation that Mr. McKean acquired in his youth by his industry and talents, that before he had attained the age of twenty-one years, he was admitted<sup>2</sup> as an

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<sup>1</sup> The basis of this biography is *Sanderson's Biography of the Signers*, 2d edition, Philadelphia; published by Brown and Peters, 1828. Robert Waln, Jr., is the author of many of the biographies in Sanderson, including that of Thomas McKean. The author is much indebted to Sanderson's *Lives*, yet the extracts from that work form but a small portion of the present biography, in which are quotations from about two hundred or more other works. Several mistakes in Sanderson are here corrected. Robert Waln, Jr., above mentioned, was the son of Robert Waln, of a Quaker family, member of Congress 1798-1801, and was born in 1797. He was an author and poet, and died at an early age in 1824.

<sup>2</sup> 1754, J. Hill Martin, *Bench and Bar of Philadelphia*, 1883, and *Penn. Mag.*, v., 489.

attorney at law in the Courts of Common Pleas for the counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, and also in the Supreme Court. Before the expiration of a year he obtained a considerable share of business, and in May, 1755,<sup>1</sup> was admitted to practice in the courts of his native county of Chester. He was also admitted to the courts of the city and county of Philadelphia. In 1756, the Attorney-general, who resided in Philadelphia, appointed him, not only without any solicitation, but without any previous knowledge on his part, his deputy, to prosecute the pleas of the crown in the county of Sussex. He resigned this office after performing its duties for two years with judgment and ability. In 1758,<sup>2</sup> April 17, he was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the province of Pennsylvania. The envy which the success of the young lawyer occasioned among his professional brethren, merely served as an additional spur to his industry, and increased his assiduity in the pursuit of legal knowledge; for though he had become the eloquent advocate and able lawyer, he was still the close and industrious student.<sup>3</sup> He afterwards went to England and studied at the Middle Temple, being admitted there May 9, 1758.<sup>4</sup>

As a recreation from his studies, in 1757, December 28, Mr. McKean enrolled himself with about one hundred and twenty-five others "in Richard Williams' company of foot, whereof William Armstrong is colonel, in Newcastle county."<sup>5</sup> In the same year he was elected clerk of the House of Assembly, an honor of which he was unapprised until he received information of his appointment from Benjamin Chew, at that time speaker. The following year he was again elected; but after serving that term he declined further appointment. In 1762, he was selected by the legislature, together with Cæsar Rodney, to revise and print the laws passed subsequent to 1752; a duty which they speedily and satisfactorily executed.

<sup>1</sup> *Penn. Mag.*, v., 139, 244, 489, xi., 249; and *Hist. Chester, Del. Co.*, J. Hill Martin. Not 1756, as given in *Sanderson*.

<sup>2</sup> *Penn. Mag.*, v., 489, and *Bench and Bar*; not 1757, as in *Sanderson*.

<sup>3</sup> *Judson's Lives*.

<sup>4</sup> *Penn. Mag.*, v., 244-5, 489; xi., 249; *Bench and Bar*, p. 22.

<sup>5</sup> The original paper in possession of J. Henry Rogers, Esq. See also *Life of George Read*, W. T. Read, p. 48.

## THE ASSEMBLY OF DELAWARE.

In the same year Mr. McKean first embarked in the stormy sea of politics, which he continued to brave for nearly half a century. In October, 1762, he was elected a member of the Assembly from the county of Newcastle, and was annually returned for seventeen successive years. So much attached to him were the people of that county, that they continued to elect him, although for the last six years of this time he was residing in Philadelphia. He still however retained his house in Newcastle, probably because his business frequently called him to that city. Finally, on the 1st of October, 1779, on the day of the general election in Delaware, he attended at Newcastle, and in an address to his constituents, declined the honor of further re-election. He was then waited upon by six gentlemen in the name of the electors, who asked him to name seven persons suitable for representatives. He replied that he knew not only *seven*, but *seventy*, whom he considered worthy of their votes; but the request being repeated, he acceded and wrote down seven names. The election resulted in the choice of the seven gentlemen whom he had named.

## HIS MARRIAGE.

On Thursday the twenty-first of July, 1763,<sup>1</sup> Mr. McKean was married to Miss Mary Borden, eldest child of Col. Joseph Borden, of Bordentown, New Jersey. She and her sister Ann, who married Francis Hopkinson, were said to be two of the most beautiful ladies in New Jersey.<sup>2</sup> Of her family and ancestry I have found as follows:

THE BORDEN FAMILY.<sup>3</sup>

RICHARD BORDEN, born 1601, married Joan (born 1604; died July 5, 1688), settled with his wife in Portsmouth, R. I. He purchased land in New Jersey in 1667, and died May 25, 1671, leaving with other children:

BENJAMIN, born in May, 1649, at Portsmouth, R. I. He

<sup>1</sup> Not July, 1762, as stated in *Sanderson's Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> E. M. Woodward, in *Bordentown Register*.

<sup>3</sup> Compiled from Savage's *Genealogical Dict. of First Settlers*; *Gen. Dict. of R. I.*, John O. Austin, 1887; *Hist. Burlington and Mercer Cos.*, E. M. Woodward and John F. Hageman; *Hist. Bordentown and Burlington*, in *Bordentown Register*, 1876, E. M. Woodward; Keith's *Provincial Councillors*, 1883, p. 269.

was married at Hartford, Ct., September 22, 1671,<sup>1</sup> to Abigail Glover, born 1653<sup>2</sup> (daughter of Henry Glover, of Hartford, Ct., born about 1614; died 1689, and of Abigail his wife), and removed to Shrewsbury, N. J. In 1716, he deeded lands to his son Joseph, of Freehold. His Bible record is contained in a Concordance of the Holy Scriptures, etc., 1698, now in possession of Oliver Hopkinson, Esq., of Philadelphia. On the fly-leaf is written "Benjamin Borden, His book, 1706." and below, "Abigal Borden died 8 of Geneyery in 66 year of her age and year of our Lord 1720." The date of his marriage, and birth and death of his son Joseph, are verified as here given in the text. Benjamin Borden died in 1718 or later, leaving eleven children, of whom the seventh child was:

JOSEPH, born May 12, 1687, probably near Freehold, and when about thirty years of age removed to Tamsworth's Landing. He was married about the year 1717 to Ann Conover (formerly *Covenhoven*), of Monmouth county, New Jersey. By deed, March 3, 1724, he purchased of Samuel Tamsworth one hundred and five acres of land, and subsequently more, and eventually owned the whole site of Bordentown. He was thus possessed of very considerable means, and founded and named the town of Bordentown. His wife died March 11, 1744-5, in her 58th year. He died September 22, 1765, leaving one son and six daughters. His will is recorded in the office of the Secretary of State at Trenton, N. J. His son—

Colonel JOSEPH BORDEN, born August 1, 1719, was a patriot of the Revolution. He was a member of the Stamp Act Congress of 1765; a member of the first New Jersey Convention at New Brunswick, July 2, 1774; one of the Committee of Observation of Burlington county, February, 1773; entered the army as Colonel of the 1st New Jersey Regiment, and became Colonel and Quartermaster of the State troops; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, September 11, 1776; reappointed September 28, 1781. He was a man of note in his locality, and during the war his fine house was burned by the British.<sup>3</sup> He was married September 22, 1743, to Elizabeth Rogers,<sup>4</sup> who was born at Allentown, July 10, 1725;

<sup>1</sup> *Gen. Dict.* of R. I. gives the year wrongly, 1670.

<sup>2</sup> According to the Borden Record, Savage is wrong in giving this date 1651.

<sup>3</sup> *Penn. Mag.*, ix., 435.

<sup>4</sup> From Robert McKean's family Bible, in possession of Mrs. Ann McKean Kerr, which is verified (as to this name) by the will of Mrs. Rogers, recorded



(daughter<sup>1</sup> of Samuel and Mary Rogers. An old pedigree on a modern sheet of legal foolscap, found between the leaves of the old Borden Record above quoted, states that Samuel Rogers was born 1692, died September 17, 1756; his wife, born 1690, died April 14, 1738, and verifies the dates of the daughter's birth and death here given from other sources.) Mrs. Borden died November 2, 1807. Judge Borden died April 8, 1791. His will is recorded at Trenton, N. J. His issue:<sup>2</sup>

- i. MARY, b. July 21, 1744, married July 21, 1763, Thomas McKean, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- ii. ANN, b. Jan. 24, 1745-6, d. June 9, 1746.
- iii. ANN, b. May 9, 1747, married Sept. 1, 1768, Francis Hopkinson, Signer of the Declaration of Independence, and left issue.
- iv. AMY, b. Oct. 30, 1749; d. Aug. 31, 1751.
- v. LÆTITIA, b. July 29, 1751; d. June 30, 1753 N. S.
- vi. JOSEPH, b. June 23, 1755; m. Nov. 26, 1778, Mary Biles, daughter of Langhorn Biles, and d. Oct. 16, 1788, leaving one child, Elizabeth, b. Nov. 13, 1779.

#### MINOR APPOINTMENTS.

In 1764, Mr. McKean was appointed one of the three trustees of the Loan Office of Newcastle county, for four years; which trust was renewed in 1768 and 1772 (1769, June 16<sup>3</sup>). This species of loan was one of the most happy expedients for the encouragement of industrious settlers in a new country, and for the improvement of lands, that was ever invented.

On the 10th of July, 1765, he was appointed by the Governor, John Penn, sole notary, and tabellion public, for the lower counties on the Delaware;<sup>4</sup> and in the same year was appointed justice of the peace and justice of the court of common pleas and quarter sessions, and of the orphans' court for the county of Newcastle. In the November term of 1765, and February term of 1766, he sat on the bench, and directed that all officers of the court should make use of *unstamped* paper in their several duties; and it is believed that

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at Mt. Holly, N. J.; in which she mentions her brother Isaac Rogers. E. M. Woodward, in the *Hist. Burlington and Mercer Co.'s*, is wrong in stating that this Joseph Borden married a daughter of Marmaduke Watson. He also states wrongly the first of the family, *Benjamin* instead of *Richard*.

<sup>1</sup> Keith's *Provinc. Counc.*, 1883, p. 269.

<sup>2</sup> Robert McKean's Family Bible.

<sup>3</sup> *Penn. Archives*, 2d series, Wm. H. Egle, ix., 643, *et seq.*

<sup>4</sup> Original in possession of J. Henry Rogers, Esq., of Newcastle, Del.

this was the first court in the colonies that established such an order.

MEMBER OF THE STAMP ACT CONGRESS AT NEW YORK.

The passage of the Stamp Act in 1765 aroused a storm of indignation throughout the colonies. Had its measures been carried out, it would have been ruinous to their prosperity. "The sun of liberty is now set," said Charles Thomson, "you must light up the candles of industry and economy." To avert the threatened evils of this act, the legislature of Massachusetts proposed to the other colonies to appoint delegates to a general congress, who might consult together, and in a dutiful and loyal manner, represent the condition of affairs to the king and parliament. To this distinguished body Thomas McKean was elected a member from the three lower counties on the Delaware. His father-in-law, Col. Joseph Borden, was a member from New Jersey.<sup>1</sup> It met in New York, October 7, 1765, and brigadier Timothy Ruggles was elected president. James Otis, of Massachusetts, was one of the most prominent delegates, and Thomas McKean and Cæsar Rodney pillars of the cause from Delaware.<sup>2</sup> The congress passed a Declaration of Rights, and appointed three committees to prepare addresses to the king, the lords, and the commons; the latter committee was composed of Thomas Lynch, James Otis, and Thomas McKean.<sup>3</sup> The congress was dissolved on the 24th of October. A few of the members were suspected of being inimical to its designs, or of wishing to ingratiate themselves with the British ministry; and on the last day of the session, when the business was concluded, the president and three or four timid members refused to sign the proceedings. Mr. McKean then rose and addressing himself personally to the president, stated that as he had made no objections to the proceedings, he should now state his reasons for refusing to sign the petition. The president replied that he did not consider himself bound to state his objections; but upon being pressed by Mr. McKean and others for an explanation, he finally stated that "It was against his conscience." Mr. McKean now rang the changes on the word *conscience* so long and loud, that a plain challenge was given and accepted in

<sup>1</sup> A list of delegates is given in Lossing's *Field Book of the Revolution*, 1860, i., 465.

<sup>2</sup> *Rise of the Republic*, Richard Frothingham, 1872.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, and *Life of James Otis*, William Tudor, 1823.

presence of the whole congress; but the president, who, however, had no more courage to fight a duel than he had to sign the proceedings, departed from New York the next morning before dawn of day.<sup>1</sup> He afterwards joined the British, and fought against the colonies.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Ogden, speaker of the house of Assembly of New Jersey, also refused to sign, although solicited by Mr. McKean and others in private. He at the same time desired to conceal his action from the people of New Jersey, who were zealous for the cause of America; Mr. McKean however would promise nothing more than not to mention the matter as he passed through New Jersey, unless the question was put to him. The question was asked in several different towns, and Mr. McKean stated the matter without hesitation. The speaker was burned in effigy in his town, and at the next meeting of the Assembly was removed from the office of speaker.

Upon reporting to the Assembly at Newcastle, Mr. McKean and Mr. Rodney received a unanimous vote of thanks of that house for their services.

Mr. McKean, writing to John Adams, 13th of June, 1812, mentions that he is the only survivor of the Stamp Act Congress.<sup>3</sup>

#### MINOR OFFICES.

During the next year, 1766, Mr. McKean was licensed by the governor of New Jersey, upon the recommendation of the judges of the supreme court, to practice as a solicitor in chancery, attorney-at-law and councillor, in all the courts of the province. On the 28th of October, 1769, he was appointed justice of the peace for the province of Pennsylvania, and re-appointed April 10, 1773, and October 24, 1774.<sup>4</sup>

Of Mr. McKean's ability as a lawyer, and his ingenuity in the defense of a client, an illustration is given by a distinguished member of the Philadelphia bar, David Paul Brown, in his work, *The Forum* (ii. 339).

In a suit brought by Myers Fisher, a lawyer of note, against a person by the name of Buncom, in Chester court, for slander, in the year 1774, the defamation having been clearly made out,

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<sup>1</sup> Sanderson.

<sup>2</sup> Lossing's *Field Book of the Revolution*, 1860, i., 465.

<sup>3</sup> *Adam's Works*, x., 14.

<sup>4</sup> *Penn. Archives*, 2d series, ix., 643 *et seq.*

Mr. McKean called some scores of witnesses, not to deny the slander, but to show that his client was such a notorious liar that no man in the county believed anything he said, and that therefore no damages could possibly have been sustained by the plaintiff. *And so the jury found.*

The early settlements upon the Delaware having been made under the dominion of a government and courts sitting at New York, it eventually became very inconvenient to consult the original records; hence Mr. McKean was selected by the Assembly in 1769, to proceed to New York, and there obtain copies of all documents relating to real estate in the Delaware counties, prior to the year 1700. This duty he satisfactorily performed, and the copies thus procured were established by law as of equal authority with the original documents.<sup>1</sup> In 1771 he was appointed by the commissioners of his majesty's customs, collector of the port of Newcastle.

#### SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

In October 1772, Mr. McKean was unanimously elected Speaker of the House of Assembly of Delaware. He writes to Mr. Adams that he was unanimously elected, although only six of the members were Whigs.<sup>2</sup>

The "Tea Act," so known, which went into effect a year later, aroused more indignation than the Stamp Act. The Delaware House of Representatives referred the matter to a committee, of whom Mr. McKean was chairman. The committee reported October 23, 1773, recommending a committee of correspondence of five members, which report was adopted, and Colonel Rodney the speaker, George Read, Thomas McKean, John McKinly, and Thomas Robinson, were chosen to be "A Committee of Correspondence and Communication." On December 16th of this year, the tea was thrown overboard in Boston.<sup>3</sup> When the Boston Port Bill was passed in March, 1774, closing the port of Boston, the colonies sent aid for the sufferers in that city. The Delaware letter was signed by Cæsar Rodney, Thomas McKean, and George Read.<sup>4</sup> And at a meeting of citizens held at Newcastle, June 29, 1774, a committee of thirteen was appointed to solicit contributions for the

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<sup>1</sup> Armor's *Lives of Governors of Penn.*, 1872.

<sup>2</sup> *Works of John Adams*, C. F. Adams, x., 82.

<sup>3</sup> Scharf's *Hist. Del.*, 1888, i., 215.

<sup>4</sup> Frothingham, *Rise of the Republic*, p. 387.

sufferers, among the members being Thomas McKean, George Read, and John McKinly.<sup>1</sup>

#### SECOND MARRIAGE.

About this time, Mr. McKean met with a serious affliction in the death of his wife, on Friday, the 12th of March, 1773,<sup>2</sup> at half-past eleven o'clock, in the 29th<sup>3</sup> year of her age, leaving two sons and four daughters, one of the latter being an infant two weeks old. A notice of her death appears in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of March 17th. She was buried on the Sunday following, in the burial ground of Immanuel Church, Newcastle.<sup>4</sup> A crayon likeness of Mrs. McKean is in possession of Mrs. Sarah P. Wilson, of Philadelphia.

Not long after this event, either in the same year or more probably in the following year, Mr. McKean removed his residence to Philadelphia, although he also retained his house in Newcastle.

On Saturday, September 3d, 1774,<sup>5</sup> Mr. McKean was married a second time, to Miss Sarah Armitage, of Newcastle. They were married by the Rev. Joseph Montgomery,<sup>6</sup> who was, as I have ascertained, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Newcastle, from 1765 to 1777. No records of that church are now in existence prior to 1842.<sup>7</sup>

#### THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

The political troubles of the colonies had been increasing to such an extent, that a correspondence naturally arose among the leading and influential characters throughout the continent; public meetings were held in various places, and it was finally agreed to call another general congress of the colonies to meet

<sup>1</sup> *Life of Geo. Read*, W. T. Read; the name wrongly spelled McKinley.

<sup>2</sup> Not February, 1773, as stated in *Sanderson's Lives*.

<sup>3</sup> Gov. McKean's Bible record, in possession of H. P. McKean, Esq.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid*. Not *Thursday*, as given in *Sanderson*. Gov. McKean's record, however, does not give the day of the week to this date.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>7</sup> I regret that I have been unsuccessful in finding anything about her family or history. None of the name now live in Newcastle; an old resident there tells me that he knows nothing of the name. The church records are also defective or destroyed.

in Philadelphia on the first Monday in September, 1774.<sup>1</sup> The three Delaware counties met in convention, August 1, 1774, of which Mr. McKean was a member from Newcastle county. The credentials of the Newcastle delegates were signed by Thomas McKean, chairman of the county committee. This convention<sup>2</sup> elected Cæsar Rodney, Thomas McKean and George Read as their delegates to Congress. "Thomas McKean," says Bancroft, "was the leading delegate from Delaware,"<sup>3</sup> and on the 5th of September, took his seat in this august assemblage, of which he became an invaluable ornament, and from that day his country claimed him as her own.<sup>4</sup> Sanderson states that he was annually elected a member until the first of February, 1783, and is the only member who served from its opening until after the preliminaries of peace of 1783 were signed. He was, however, not a member during 1777. The delegates produced their credentials and took their seats at very irregular times, and twice the state was not represented.

The Journals of Congress (Way and Gideon, 1823), show that the Delaware delegates took their seats as follows:

- i. 1. Sept. 5, 1774. Cæsar Rodney, Thomas McKean and George Read are delegates at the opening of Congress.
- 50-2 May 10, 1775. C. Rodney, Thomas McKean, George Read.
568. Dec. 2, 1776. George Read, John Dickinson and John Evans. (George Read appears to have been rather opposed to McKean politically. In Sanderson's *Life of Cæsar Rodney*, it is stated that about this time the royalist party and the lukewarm in the lower counties contrived to come into a majority for a while, "and one of their earliest acts was to remove Mr. Rodney and Mr. McKean, two delegates who had in every instance shown themselves the unpromising friends of liberty.")
- ii. 22. Jan. 24, 1774. No delegates from Delaware. The President directed to inform the State.
73. April 4, 1777. George Read, Nicholas Van Dyke, and James Sykes.
368. Aug. 15, 1777. No delegates from Delaware. The President directed to inform the State.

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<sup>1</sup> It met at Carpenter's Hall, dissolved itself in October, met May 10, 1775, in the State House.—*Reminiscences of Carpenter's Hall*.

<sup>2</sup> See *Birth of the Republic*, Daniel W. Goodloe, 1889, p. 234.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. U. S.*, viii. 75.

<sup>4</sup> *Sanderson's Lives*.

423. Jan. 30, 1778. Cæsar Rodney, Nicholas Vandyke<sup>1</sup> and Thomas McKean.
- iii. 19. Aug. 15, 1778. Mr. McKean attended and resumed his seat.
427. Jan. 27, 1780. Mr. Vandyke produced his credentials.
581. Feb. 26, 1781. Mr. McKean attended and produced the credentials of the delegates from Delaware (names not given).
581. Feb. 27, 1781. Mr. Rodney attended and took his seat.
592. March 2, 1781. Congress reorganized under the Articles of Confederation. All the delegates' names are entered on the Journal. From Delaware, Thomas Rodney and Thomas McKean.
651. July 26, 1781. Mr. Vandyke attended.
714. Jan. 28, 1782. Mr. T. Rodney and Mr. McKean attended and took their seats.
718. Feb. 14, 1782. Mr. McKean produced the credentials of Thomas McKean, Philemon Dickinson, Cæsar Rodney and Samuel Wharton, delegates for the present year.
725. Feb. 25, 1782. Mr. Wharton attended and took his seat.
- iv. 172-3. March 10, 1783. Eleazer M'Comb and Gunning Bedford appeared and produced the credentials of Cæsar Rodney, James Tilton, Eleazer M'Comb and Gunning Bedford, delegates from Delaware, elected February 1, 1783.
- The term of service of Thomas McKean here ends.

On the 20th of October, 1774, Congress, as a retaliatory measure, entered into a "non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement or association," signed by fifty-three members, including Thomas McKean and George Read, of the lower counties.<sup>2</sup>

Soon after taking his seat, Mr. McKean was appointed one of the committee to state the rights of the colonies, the various instances in which those rights had been violated, and the means most proper for the restoration of them; also on hearing and determining appeals in libel cases in the Court of Admiralty; besides other less important committees. He was, however, particularly useful in conducting

<sup>1</sup>A variation in spelling will be noticed.

<sup>2</sup>*Birth of the Republic*, D. W. Goodloe, 1889, p. 80-5. Fac similes of signatures may be found in J. J. Smith's *Am. Hist. and Lit. Curiosities*, pl. liii.

negotiations of the Secret Committee, charged with procuring arms and ammunition from abroad; and in managing the monetary affairs of the new nation; two of the most important and difficult subjects with which Congress had to deal.<sup>1</sup> But the most important committee of all was that appointed June 12, 1776, to prepare the Articles of Confederation between the colonies, which will be recurred to in its proper place. Of his subsequent services, it is mentioned in the papers of James Madison,<sup>2</sup> that Mr. McKean proposed a conditional exchange of Cornwallis for Col. H. Laurens, on condition that a general cartel should be acceded to; and that he advocated coercion towards Vermont by moving to postpone the report of a committee in the matter, to make way for a set of resolutions, declaring Vermont in contempt of the authority of Congress, in exercising jurisdiction over certain persons professing allegiance to New York, that Vermont be required to make restitution for property taken from them, and in the event of refusal, Congress to enforce it; and, on the part of Delaware, he insisted on an equality of representation among the States.

#### THE COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION AND OBSERVATION, AND THE ASSOCIATORS.

In the troublous times now approaching, the people throughout the colonies elected Committees of Inspection and Observation, Committees of Correspondence, Committees of Safety, etc., and enrolled themselves in military organizations.

The Committees of Correspondence<sup>3</sup> were chosen during the winter of 1773-4 by the several Assemblies, upon recommendation of the House of Burgesses of Virginia. Thomas McKean was one of the Delaware Committee, as related on a previous page. The Philadelphia Committee of Inspection and Correspondence, consisting of forty-three members, was appointed June 18, 1774. A new committee of sixty-seven members for the city, and forty-two for the county, was appointed in May, 1775, but Mr. McKean's name does not appear in these lists;<sup>4</sup> and it is not known when he joined. This is certain, however, that he did join, for he was a member in November 1775 or

<sup>1</sup> Armor's *Lives of the Govs. of Penn.*

<sup>2</sup> Purchased by Congress, and published by Henry D. Gilpin, 1841, pp. 187-99, 206-14-20, 751-2.

<sup>3</sup> See Frothingham on this subject, p. 312 *et seq.*

<sup>4</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i, 289-92.



earlier, and subsequently became chairman. It may be conjectured that as Delaware was in a measure considered "the Three Lower Counties of Pennsylvania," the Delaware Committee was merged in with the Philadelphia Committee. There were six sub-Committees of Inspection and Observation in Philadelphia.<sup>1</sup>

The Committee of Safety in Pennsylvania was constituted by the Assembly June 30, 1775, composed of some of the most prominent men in the colony; Henry Wynkoop, Anthony Wayne, Edward Biddle, Thomas Willing, Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwallader, Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, and others, in all twenty-five, of whom seven constituted a quorum.

As early as May 1, 1775, a list was made out of persons in the middle ward of Philadelphia, (lying west of Fourth street, and between Market and Chestnut streets,) "able and willing to bear arms," in which appears the name of Thomas McKean.<sup>2</sup> Under this date the "roll call of Captain John Little's company, 2d battalion" gives about seventy-four names, among whom Daniel C. Clymer is first lieutenant, and Thomas McKean one of the privates, chiefly enrolled from the middle ward of the city.<sup>3</sup>

The military organization in Pennsylvania called itself the *Associators*; and being at first voluntary, became afterwards compulsory. They were governed by a board of officers, and a board of privates. Of the former Colonel Daniel Roberdeau of the 2d battalion was elected president. Their Code of Rules was approved by the Council of Safety; and soon after, on the 8th of November, 1775, was enforced by the Assembly, in an act enrolling all white males between the ages of sixteen and fifty, fining those who would not bear arms. While this bill was pending, the Quakers, a large and influential body in Pennsylvania—a majority of whom were Tories—protested against its passage.<sup>4</sup> To neutralize the effect of this, the Committee of Correspondence directed Thomas McKean, George Clymer, Jonathan Bayard Smith, Benjamin Jones, Sharpe Delaney, John Wilcox, and Timothy Matlack, to prepare a re-

<sup>1</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i, 290-3.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist. Berks and Lebanon Cos., Pa.*, I. D. Rupp, 1844, p. 401, quoting the papers of Col. D. C. Clymer.

<sup>3</sup> MSS. of D. C. Clymer. See *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, pp. 66, 130.

<sup>4</sup> *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, 1876, p. 60-1.

monstrance, and with it the committee marched to the State House.<sup>1</sup> The board of officers, through its chairman Colonel Daniel Roberdeau, likewise presented a remonstrance to the Assembly.

About May, 1776, two more battalions were added to the Associators; the 4th, Colonel Thomas McKean, and the 5th, Colonel Timothy Matlack, with Daniel C. Clymer as lieutenant colonel.<sup>2</sup>

RESOLUTION OF THE 15TH OF MAY, AND MEETING OF  
MAY 20TH, 1776.

The disagreement between England and the colonies continued to increase; the king and ministry made no reply to overtures of reconciliation that had been made by the colonies, until at last, weary of vain efforts, Congress, on the 15th of May passed an important act—the first of a series of events, which culminated in the Declaration of Independence—recommending to the Colonies, that where no government sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs had been established, to adopt such government, and that all authority under the crown should be suppressed, and all powers be under the authority of the people. Some members in Congress opposed this, but Mr. McKean was strongly in favor, and said, “that the step must be taken, or liberty, property and life be lost.”<sup>3</sup>

On the 23d, an address signed by William Hamilton, chairman, asked the Assembly to adhere to its instructions to the Pennsylvania delegates in Congress against independence. To oppose the influence of this petition, the next day the Committee of Inspection and Observation came together, with Mr. McKean as chairman, and addressed a memorial directly to Congress, that the Assembly did not possess the confidence of the people.<sup>4</sup>

“Pennsylvania was now fairly alive with the idea of independence. Nowhere had the question been more thoroughly discussed than in its press, and nowhere was the opposition more strongly intrenched, for it had on its side the proprietary government. The tories could point to the instructions of the Assembly as

<sup>1</sup> Ibid., and Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phila.*, p. 302.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, p. 307, and *Penn. in War of Rev.*, W. H. Egle, 1887, i, 556. Thos. McKean is, however, referred to as colonel as early as April 22, 1776.—*Col. Rec.*, x., 548.

<sup>3</sup> Bancroft, *Hist. U. S.*, 1860, viii, 368.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., viii, 386–7.

the voice of one-eighth of the inhabitants of America. On this well-prepared soil fell the resolution of the fifteenth of May. The principle it embodied was accepted by the popular party as their rule of action. To give expression to the public sentiment, a great public meeting was held on the 20th of May, at the State House, which was called to order by Major John Bayard, a man of singular purity of character, brave and devout, in which Colonel Daniel Roberdeau, a gallant soldier of the Revolution, presided, and Thomas McKean, an eminent civilian, took part."<sup>1</sup> The resolution of the 15th of May was read and approved. A protest was drawn up, and agreed to, against the Assembly forming a new government (as that should emanate from the people). The protest was presented to the Assembly on the 22d, and laid on the table. The meeting was held in the rain, nevertheless four thousand people were present.<sup>2</sup> A very full account of this meeting, with the resolutions and protest, is given in Force's *American Archives*. (Ser. IV, vi., 517-19-845.)

This great demonstration was felt throughout the province. The position it took was responded to by local committees, public meetings, and military battalions. Following only five days after the passage of the resolution of Congress, its prompt, firm and decided action very greatly paved the way for the Declaration of Independence six weeks later.

The people having thus approved the resolution of Congress, "that all powers should be under the authority of the people," and having protested against the Assembly forming a new government, the Committee of Observation of Philadelphia, the next day, issued a call to the committees of the several counties, to send deputies to a Provincial Convention.<sup>3</sup> Thomas McKean, as chairman of the committee, then presented a memorial to Congress, stating that the instructions of the Pennsylvania Assembly to their delegates have a tendency to withdraw the province from its union with the other colonies, and this committee has called a meeting of all the committees of the province to take action in the matter.<sup>4</sup>

On the 6th of June, the 4th battalion, Colonel McKean,

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<sup>1</sup> *Rise of the Republic*, Richard Frothingham. See also *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, 62, and *Scharf and Westcott*, p. 312.

<sup>2</sup> *Scharf and Westcott*, p. 312. Also *Diary of Christopher Marshall*, William Duane, 1877.

<sup>3</sup> *Frothingham*, 522.

<sup>4</sup> *Force's American Archives*, IV., vi, 560, 689.

unanimously agreed to support the resolution of Congress of the 15th of May and the proceedings of the meeting of May 20th.<sup>1</sup> Other battalions likewise passed similar resolutions.

In June also, on the 14th, the Delaware Assembly, at the instance of Mr. McKean, unanimously approved the resolution of Congress of the 15th of May, overturning the proprietary government within her borders.<sup>2</sup>

#### CONVENTION OF DEPUTIES AT CARPENTER'S HALL.

This important convention, which commenced on the 18th of June 1776, was the immediate result of the meeting of May 20th, and is that referred to above in the memorial of Thomas McKean to Congress. Deputies, to the number of 104, attended from all the committees in the province; Colonel McKean, chairman of the City Committee, called the meeting to order, and stated its object. In its organization, Colonel McKean was made president, Colonel Joseph Hart, vice-president, Jonathan Bayard Smith and Samuel Cadwallader Morris, secretaries; Benjamin Franklin, Colonel John Bayard, Timothy Matlack, and Dr. Benjamin Rush were among those present. The resolution of the 15th of May was read, and it was resolved "that the present government of the province was not competent to the exigencies of our affairs." Afterwards the convention provided for a general Provincial Convention from the whole province, to be elected by the people, to form a government for the state. This present convention in the interim seems now to have taken upon itself the general management of most of the affairs of the province; it is appealed to to settle disputes, takes action to raise a Flying Camp; and on the 23d the chairman, Colonel McKean, Dr. Rush, and Colonel James Smith<sup>3</sup> are a committee to prepare a Declaration, which was agreed to on the 24th; that the deputies are willing to concur in a vote of Congress "*declaring the united colonies free and independent states.*" The convention then adjourned, and this Declaration, signed by Thomas McKean, president, was by him delivered the next day directly to Congress.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ibid., 784.

<sup>2</sup> Bancroft, viii., 436; *Life of George Read*, W. T. Read, 1870, p. 245; *Birth of the Republic*, Goodloe, 242.

<sup>3</sup> Not Franklin, as stated in *Sanderson's Lives*.

<sup>4</sup> Force's *American Archives*, IV, vi, 951-66, 1721; Frothingham's *Rise of the Republic*, 522-3; Bancroft's *History*, viii., 445 *et seq.*; Niles' *Principles and Acts of the Revolution*, 252; *Diary of Chr. Marshall*, Duane, p. 78; Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phil.*, 321 *et seq.*; Hickey's *Constitution*, 1853, p. 194.

## THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

Following close upon the convention at Carpenter's Hall, and encouraged by their fearless Declaration, Congress on the 1st of July resumed the debate upon the resolution before that body which had been postponed from the 10th of June; and on the 2d of July, 1776,<sup>1</sup> agreed to the resolution reported from the Committee of the Whole, "That these United Colonies are, and of right, ought to be, Free and independent States. . . ." The committee asked leave to sit again, and likewise made the same request on the 3d. On the 4th of July, 1776, the committee reported the DECLARATION to Congress, when it was unanimously agreed to.<sup>2</sup> There is no account of the debates on Independence: Adams spoke, as did McKean, but we have no report of what they said.<sup>3</sup> R. H. Lee, Wythe, Gerry, Jefferson, and Samuel Adams also gave their voices in favor.<sup>4</sup> "Did the able and indomitable McKean remain silent?" says Randall, in his "Life of Thomas Jefferson."<sup>5</sup>

When the vote was taken on the 2d of July in Committee of the Whole, Mr. McKean voted *for*, and Mr. Read *against* the resolution: the vote of Delaware was thus divided and lost (all votes being taken by States). Every State, except Pennsylvania and Delaware, had voted in favor of the measure; and it was of great importance to secure a unanimous vote. Mr. McKean, therefore, without delay dispatched an express, at his own expense, for Mr. Rodney, who was then in Delaware. That gentleman hastened to Philadelphia, and arrived at the State House, in his boots and spurs, just in time on the morning of the 4th to cast his vote in favor, and the vote of Delaware was secured. Two Pennsylvania delegates absented themselves, and that State was also united with the majority, making the vote *unanimous*.<sup>6</sup>

These circumstances are related by Mr. McKean in a letter to Governor Thomas Rodney, dated August 22, 1813,<sup>7</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> Not 1st, as stated in *Sanderson's Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> *Journals of Congress*, ed. 1777. See also Hickey's *Constitution*, p. 195 *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup> *Frothingham*, 534-7.

<sup>4</sup> *Historic Account of Old State House*, F. M. Etting, p. 96.

<sup>5</sup> I. 183.

<sup>6</sup> *Sanderson's Lives*: Lives of McKean and of Rodney.

<sup>7</sup> In possession of T. M. Rodney, Esq., pub. in fac-simile in Brotherhead's *Book of the Signers*, Phila., 1861, and also a portion, not the whole, in *Harp. Mag.*, vol. lxvii., p. 208 *et seq.*

again in a letter to John Adams, January 7, 1814, quoted nearly in full on a subsequent page.

Recent historians are of opinion that Mr. McKean is mistaken as to a day or two; that his patriotic and successful endeavor to bring Rodney up from Delaware, was that he might vote on the main question—the Resolution of Independence on the 2d of July.<sup>1</sup>

The incident just related forms the subject of a poem by the well-known writer George Alfred Townsend.<sup>2</sup> Thomas McKean's soliloquy, as he waits upon the State House steps for Mr. Rodney, and the concluding stanzas, are as follows:

“Read is skulking; Dickinson is  
 With conceit and fright our foeman,  
 Wedded to his Quaker monies,”  
 Mused the grim old rebel Roman;  
 “Pennsylvania, spoiled by faction,  
 Independence will not dare;  
 Maryland approves the action;  
 Shall we fail on Delaware?”

In the tower the old bell rumbled,  
 Striking slowly twelve o'clock.  
 Down the street a hot horse stumbled,  
 And a man in riding frock,  
 With a green patch on his visage,  
 And his garments white with grime.  
 “Now praise God!” McKean spoke grimly,  
 “Cæsar Rodney is on time.”

Silent, hand in hand together,  
 Walked they in the great square hall;  
 To the roll with “Aye” responded  
 At the clerk's immortal call;  
 Listened to the Declaration  
 From the steeple to the air:  
 “Here this day is made a nation,  
 By the help of Delaware!”

#### MR. McKEAN'S SERVICES IN FAVOR OF THE DECLARATION.

Let us now briefly recapitulate Mr. McKean's services in favor of the Declaration, as above related: First, as a member of Congress, he assisted in passing the resolution of the 15th

<sup>1</sup> Mellen Chamberlain's *Authentication*.

<sup>2</sup> *Poetical Addresses*, Bonaventure & Co., N. Y., 1881; *Cæsar Rodney's 4th of July*.

of May. Next as an "eminent civilian," he was the chief speaker at a meeting of citizens which ratified the resolution. As chairman of the Philadelphia Committee, he issues a call for a meeting of deputies of all the committees in the State, and also reports this to Congress. As Colonel of a battalion he joins his command, and the resolution is again ratified; he takes the chair as Speaker of the Assembly of Delaware, and at his instance the resolution is again ratified; he calls to order the meeting of deputies at Carpenter's Hall, who have met together in answer to his call, and is made chairman. The meeting agrees to support a vote of Congress, that these colonies are *free and independent States*. As a privileged delegate from this meeting, he walks into Congress and lays the report before that body. He votes for the Declaration in Committee of the Whole, but his vote is neutralized by Mr. Read, who votes against him; he sends an express at his own expense for Mr. Rodney, and on the 2d, and on the memorable 4th of July, with Mr. Rodney outvotes Mr. Read, and secures a *unanimous* vote.

Had it not been for Mr. McKean's exertions, the engrossed Declaration could not have been headed as it now is—The UNANIMOUS Declaration of the Thirteen United States. Fortunate for the country was it that Mr. McKean held so many offices to give him these opportunities; and fortunate, too, that he was a man of sufficient energy and activity to make use of them to the best advantage.

#### THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.—HOW SIGNED.

It is a general popular belief that the Declaration of Independence was signed on the 4th of July, 1776, as it now appears by those whose names are inseparably a part of it. The engrossed Declaration implies this, strengthened by the printed journals of Congress. The first to challenge this commonly received opinion, according to Judge Chamberlain in his *Authentication*, was Mr. McKean; and since his day many eminent writers have discussed the subject. Even the signers themselves—McKean, Jefferson and Adams, give conflicting accounts of the matter.

The question as stated by Judge Chamberlain is this: "Was the draught of the Declaration of Independence, which, after various amendments, was finally agreed to on the afternoon of July 4th, forthwith engrossed on paper, and thereupon subscribed by all the members then present except Dickinson?"

A secondary question: "Was the Declaration signed by *any one* on July 4th, 1776?" seems to be an issue not heretofore raised by any historian; but tacitly accepted in the affirmative as an established fact. The author has discussed this question on a subsequent page.

Mr. McKean explicitly denies in four separate letters, that the Declaration was generally signed on July 4th: *First*, in a letter to Alexander J. Dallas, dated September 26, 1796, and published in "Sanderson's Lives;" *secondly*, in the above mentioned letter to Governor Rodney of August 22, 1813; *thirdly*, in the letter to Mr. Adams of January, 1814,<sup>1</sup> also above mentioned—these two letters last named are almost identical, word for word, in the portions relating to this matter under discussion; and, *fourthly*, in a letter of June 16, 1817 (eight days before his death), to William McCorkle and Son,<sup>2</sup> in which the letter to Mr. Dallas is largely quoted.

In the first named letter, September 26, 1796, in speaking of the printed journals, Mr. McKean says:

"By the printed publications referred to, it would appear as if the fifty-five gentlemen whose names are there printed, and none other, were on that day personally present in congress and assenting to the Declaration; whereas the truth is otherwise. . . .

"Modesty should not rob any man of his just honor, when by that honor his modesty cannot be offended. My name is not in the printed journals of congress as a party to the Declaration of Independence; and this, like an error of the first concoction, has vitiated most of the subsequent publications; and yet the fact is, that I was then a member of congress for the state of Delaware, was personally present in congress, and voted in favor of independence on the fourth of July, 1776, and signed the declaration after it had been engrossed on parchment, where my name in my own handwriting still appears.

"I do not know how the misstatement in the printed journals has happened. The manuscript *public* journal has no names annexed to the Declaration of Independence, nor has the *secret* journal; but it appears by the latter, that on the nineteenth day of July, 1776, the congress directed that it should be engrossed on parchment and signed by *every member*, and that it was so produced on the second of August, and *signed*. This is interlined in the *secret* journal, in the handwriting of Charles Thomson, esquire,

<sup>1</sup> *Niles' Reg.*, July 12, 1817, xii., 305 *et seq.*; *Adams' Works*, C. F. Adams, x., 87; *Mass. Hist. Col.*, 5th Ser., iv., 505, and partly quoted in Judge Chamberlain's *Authentication*, Dec. Ind.

<sup>2</sup> *Niles' Reg.*, xii., 278; Duane's *Diary of Christopher Marshall*; *The Portfolio*, Sept., 1817, p. 246, quoting *Freeman's Journal*.



the secretary. The present secretary of state of the United States and myself have lately inspected the journals, and seen this."

In the letter to Mr. Adams, after speaking of other matters, Mr. McKean continues as follows:

"On the 1st July, 1776, the question was taken in the committee of the whole of Congress, when Pennsylvania, represented by seven members then present, voted against it—four to three; among the majority were Robert Morris and John Dickinson; Delaware (having only two present, namely, myself and Mr. Read) was divided; all the other states voting in favor of it. The report was delayed until the 4th; and, in the mean time, I sent an express for Cæsar Rodney to Dover, in the county of Kent in Delaware, at my private expense, whom I met at the state-house door, on the 4th of July, in his boots. He resided eighty miles from the city, and just arrived as congress met. The question was taken, Delaware voted in favor of independence; Pennsylvania (there being five members present, Messrs. Dickinson and Morris absent) voted also for it; Messrs. Willing and Humphreys were against it. Thus the thirteen states were unanimous in favor of independence. Notwithstanding this, in the printed public journal of congress for 1776, Vol. 2, it appears that the declaration of independence was declared on the 4th of July, 1776, by the gentlemen whose names are there inserted, whereas no person signed it on that day; and, among the names there inserted, one gentleman, namely, George Read, Esq., was not in favor of it, and seven were not in Congress on that day,<sup>1</sup> namely, Messrs. Morris,

<sup>1</sup> Willis P. Hazard, in his edition of *Watson's Annals*, iii, 222, corrects this sentence: *Morris* should be *Messrs.*, but Hazard is still wrong. The sentence is correct, as shown by what follows: Morris was "not in Congress on that day," because he was absent, as Mr. McKean says above; the five others were not, because they had not then been elected, as he says below. In the early part of this letter, in speaking of the *vote*, Mr. McKean names Morris and Dickinson as absent; here, in speaking of the *signers*, he properly names Morris only.

After the publication of a letter of Mr. McKean in *Potter's American Monthly* (vols. iv.—v., 1875), a controversy sprang up, whether Mr. McKean should not have mentioned *nine* instead of *seven* members of Congress; but the editors as well as the contributors of that magazine are still mistaken in going back to December, 1774, for the election of delegates. A later election, November 6, 1775 (*Journals of Cong.*), returned nine members—Morton, Dickinson, Morris, Franklin, Humphreys, Biddle, Willing, Allen and Wilson. Mr. McKean mentions *seven*; the other two are Biddle, who was sick and died during the session, and Allen, a British sympathizer (*Scharf and Westcott*, i., 317). The latter abandoned his seat, June 14th, and Mr. McKean knew that two seats were permanently vacated, so that Pennsylvania was represented by *seven* only. Of the above, Morton, Morris, Franklin and Wilson signed in August; their election did not hold over, for they were re-elected July 20, 1776, together with Ross, Clymer, Rush, Smith and Taylor, nine in all, who signed in behalf of Pennsylvania. I think this matter is now clearly and correctly stated.

Rush, Clymer, Smith, Taylor and Ross, all of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Thornton of New-Hampshire; nor were the six gentlemen last named, members of congress on the 4th of July. The five for Pennsylvania were appointed delegates by the convention of that State on the 20th July, and Mr. Thornton took his seat in Congress, for the first time, on the 4th November following; when the names of Henry Wisner, of New York,<sup>1</sup> and Thomas McKean, of Delaware, are not printed as subscribers, though both were present in Congress on the 4th of July and voted for independence.

Here false colors are certainly hung out; there is culpability somewhere: what I have heard as an explanation is as follows: When the declaration was voted, it was ordered to be engrossed on parchment and then signed, and that a few days afterwards a resolution was entered on the secret journal that no person should have a seat in congress during that year until he should have signed the declaration of independence. . . . After the 4th July I was not in Congress for several months, having marched with a regiment of associators as colonel, to support general Washington, until the flying camp of ten thousand men was completed. When the associators were discharged, I returned to Philadelphia, took my seat in Congress and signed my name to the Declaration on parchment. This transaction should be truly stated, and the then secret journal should be made public. In the manuscript journal, Mr. Pickering, then secretary of state, and myself saw a *printed half sheet* of paper,<sup>2</sup> with the names of the members afterward in the printed journals stitched in. We examined the parchment where my name is signed in my own handwriting."

Mr. McKean then turns to other subjects, and concludes:

"My sight fades very fast, though my writing may not discover it. God bless you.

Your friend, THO'S McKEAN.

His Excellency JOHN ADAMS.

<sup>1</sup> Some authors have thought Mr. McKean was mistaken that Mr. Wisner voted for independence, because the New York delegates had not been so instructed, and since but twelve States voted on July 2d. Franklin Burdge, however, published in 1878 a memorial of Henry Wisner, quoting letters of his to show that he did vote for independence, and was the only New Yorker who so voted.

<sup>2</sup> There is no "*printed half-sheet* of paper" now in the journals. Mr. McKean saw the journals when Mr. Pickering was Secretary of State, 1795-1800, about seventeen years before writing this letter, and may confound the printed Declaration wafered in, with some other paper, real or imaginary, not now known.

Mr. Jefferson holds the contrary side of the question in his memoranda, as follows :<sup>1</sup>

“The Declaration thus signed on the 4th, on paper, was engrossed on parchment, and signed again on the 2d of August.”

And again, in a letter of May 12, 1819, to Samuel Adams Wells :

“It was not till the 2d of July, that the Declaration itself was taken up ; nor till the 4th, that it was decided, and it was signed by every member present, except Mr. Dickinson, . . . .”

Mr. Adams takes the same side of the question with Mr. Jefferson. In transmitting the above letter of Mr. McKean to Mercy Warren for her reading, he writes under date of Quincy, February 2, 1814 :<sup>2</sup>

“*Dear Madam* : I send you a curiosity. Mr. McKean is mistaken in a day or two. The final vote of independence, after the last debate, was passed on the 2d or 3d of July, and the Declaration prepared and signed on the 4th.

“What are we to think of history, when, in less than forty years, such diversities appear in the memories of living persons, who were witnesses?”

These conflicting statements should now be carefully criticised. Mr. Adams here, in his old age, contradicts what he himself said thirty-eight years before in a letter to Samuel Chase. On July 9th, five days after the passage of the Declaration, he writes : “As soon as an American seal is prepared, I conjecture that the declaration will be subscribed by all the members.”<sup>3</sup> From which we may infer that the Declaration had not *then* been signed. The earlier letter as contemporary evidence is deserving of more credit than the later one.

As to Mr. Jefferson, Judge Chamberlain has shown in his *Authentication*, p. 8–9, that Mr. Jefferson’s *Notes* were not made at the time alleged, but subsequently, and aided by the printed journals. “Hence his notes lose the authority of contemporaneous entries.”

George Washington Greene says :<sup>4</sup> “Mr. Jefferson’s memory failed him singularly in his history of that document, important as the part he bore in it was.”

<sup>1</sup> *Jefferson's Writings*, H. A. Washington, Washington, D. C., i, 26, 120–2, vii., 124 ; *Randall's Life*, i., 171.

<sup>2</sup> *Mass. Hist. Collections*, 5th Ser., iv., 505.

<sup>3</sup> *Adams' Works*, ed. 1860, ix., 421 ; Scharf and Westcott, *Hist.*, i., 319.

<sup>4</sup> *Histor. View Amer. Rev.*, 379.

And after the appearance of Mrs. Morris' article on the Declaration in *Potter's American Monthly*, several others wrote expressing their opinions. Among whom, William Duane writes:<sup>1</sup> "Mr. Jefferson was so clearly wrong in stating that Pennsylvania's vote for Independence was secured by the appearance of new members on the fourth of July, that we have a right to suspect him in error in other points." Another writer,<sup>2</sup> name unknown, in an article, *The Declaration of Independence, The statements of Thomas McKean and Thomas Jefferson compared*, gives their statements in full, and says: "A gentleman of good repute, as a historical and antiquarian scholar, disagrees with Mrs. Morris, and writes us as follows: 'Mr. Jefferson, at the time he wrote his autobiography, was very old; and we all know that the memory is the first of the mental faculties to show signs of decay. He confused what was done in Congress in August, with what was done in July. He had forgotten the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. His account cannot be compared with the clear and positive statements of Governor Thomas McKean.'"

Mr. McKean's first statement on this subject was made twenty years after the Declaration was signed. Age had not, at this time or any other time, impaired his mental faculties; witness his subsequent vigor ten years later, while Governor of Pennsylvania, and the letter to William McCorkle and son, eight days before his death. His first statement, he reiterated during the next twenty-one years. In the main facts, his statements have not been impeached, although in some collateral matters of minor importance he may be in error.

Among recent writers, the opinion is almost unanimous that the Declaration was not generally signed on the 4th July, but was subscribed or authenticated by John Hancock president, and Charles Thomson secretary.

In his recent history, Justin Winsor<sup>3</sup> states distinctly that it was *signed* by the president and secretary. "The best investigators of our day are agreed that the president and secretary alone signed it on that day."

Daniel Webster,<sup>4</sup> Robert C. Winthrop,<sup>5</sup> and George Wash-

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<sup>1</sup> Vols. iv.-v., for 1875, p. 785.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 651.

<sup>3</sup> *Narrative and Crit. History of Amer.*, 1888-9, v., 231 *et seq.*

<sup>4</sup> *Works*, Boston, 1872, i., 129.

<sup>5</sup> Oration, July 4, 1876, Boston, 1876, p. 29.

ington Greene,<sup>1</sup> hold that it was authenticated by the *signatures* of the president and secretary.

Peter Force,<sup>2</sup> the most thorough and reliable investigator of revolutionary history, George Bancroft<sup>3</sup> and Richard Frothingham<sup>4</sup> rather vaguely and perhaps cautiously state that it was *authenticated* by the president and secretary.

Benson J. Lossing formerly stated<sup>5</sup> that the Declaration was *signed* by the president alone, but has since changed his opinion, and has now come to the conclusion that it was *signed* by the members on the paper on which it had been written.<sup>6</sup>

Hildrith's History of the United States (iii, 137) and William L. Stone<sup>7</sup> hold that some or a few of the members *signed* on July 4th.

William T Read, in his life of his grandfather George Read (p. 229), is assuredly mistaken in saying it was *signed* on July 4th "by all present in Congress on that day except Mr. Dickinson." Force flatly contradicts this statement (originating with Jefferson) contained in Lord Mahon's History.<sup>8</sup>

Philadelphia's noted historian, Watson, quotes Mr. McKean's letter, that "the Declaration of Independence was not actually signed on the 4th of July."<sup>9</sup>

Mrs. Nellie Hess Morris, in a magazine article on the Declaration, regards it "as a question I cannot venture to decide."<sup>10</sup>

The latest, and most thorough and searching investigator of this subject is Judge Mellen Chamberlain, of Boston, in his *Authentication of the Declaration of Independence*,<sup>11</sup> wherein he shows that it was not generally signed on July 4th; but he does not touch upon any other phase of the question.

One naturally now turns to the printed journals of Congress, to see what evidence is there recorded, which can be construed so variously; but, as will be seen below, the *printed* journals are inaccurate and misleading, and have doubtless been the

<sup>1</sup>*Histor. View of Amer. Rev.*, N. Y., 1872, p. 101, 379.

<sup>2</sup>*The Dec. Ind., or Notes on Lord Mahon's Hist.*, London, 1855, p. 61.

<sup>3</sup>*Hist. U. S.*, ed. 1885, iv., 452; 1879, v., 332.

<sup>4</sup>*Rise of the Republic*, p. 544.

<sup>5</sup>*Field Book of Rev.*, 1860, ii., 79, and *Harp. Mag.*, xlvii., 258.

<sup>6</sup>*Potter's Am. Monthly*, Phila., iv.-v., for 1875, 754-7.

<sup>7</sup>*The Dec. of Ind. in a New Light*, *Harp. Mag.*, lxvii., 210.

<sup>8</sup>*The Dec. Ind.*, London, 1855, p. 63.

<sup>9</sup>*Annals*, Phila. ed., 1884, 3 vols., i., 400.

<sup>10</sup>*Potter's Am. Monthly*, iv.-v., 498.

<sup>11</sup>*Cambridge*, 1885; reprinted from *Mass. Hist. Coll.*, November, 1884.

cause of much of this confusion. The journal (for 1776) was first printed by order of Congress by Robert Aitken, Philadelphia, 1777 (vols. 1 and 2). The whole Journal is in thirteen volumes, printed from time to time by Aitken, D. C. Claypoole, John Dunlap, and J. Patterson.

The Journal was reprinted in 1777, vols. 1 and 2 only; again in 1800 by Folwell in thirteen volumes; and in 1823 by Way and Gideon in 4 vols. These are all the earlier editions mentioned in B. P. Poore's Catalogue of Government Publications.

The proceedings of July 4th, 1776, according to the printed Journal, 1st edition (1777), are as follows *literatim*:

"Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself, into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the declaration, and after some time the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Harrison reported, that the committee have agreed to a declaration which they desired him to report.

"The declaration being read, was agreed to, as follows;

"A DECLARATION by the Representatives of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA in Congress assembled.

[*Here follows the Declaration.*]

"The foregoing declaration was by order of Congress engrossed and signed by the following members:

[*Here follow the names in groups, against the names of their respective States.*]

*Resolved*, That copies of the declaration be sent to the several assemblies, conventions and committees, or councils of safety, and to the several commanding officers of the continental troops; that it be proclaimed in each of the United States, and at the head of the army."

In the editions of 1777 and 1800 there are printed but fifty-five names subscribed—Mr. McKean's being omitted. In the later edition of 1823 this omission is corrected, and his name is printed with the others. The discovery of this omission of Mr. McKean's name (and which will be referred to more fully under the signing of the Declaration on parchment,) was one of the causes which led to this discussion as to the signing.

Wishing to settle the matter if possible, I obtained permission from the Secretary of State to examine the original manuscript journals of Congress. After a perusal of them, I came into possession (through the kindness of the author,) of Judge Mellen Chamberlain's *Authentication of the Declaration of*

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Resolved that an application be made to the committee of safety of Pennsylvania for a supply of blankets for the troops at New York and that the colony of Maryland and Delaware be requested to send a body of militia for the flying camp with all expedition and to march them without delay to the city of Philadelphia.

Agreeable to the order of the day the Congress resolved to appoint a committee of the whole to take into their further consideration the declaration.

The president resumed the chair  
Mr. Harrison reported that the committee of the whole Congress have agreed to a declaration which he delivered in.

The declaration being again read was agreed to as follows:

IN CONGRESS  
A DECLARATION  
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES  
UNITED STATES  
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that the Reasons which impel them to the Separation should be stated in the most plain and simple manner.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute









Thursday July 4<sup>th</sup> 1776

expressed that an application be made to the  
Military Supply of Ordnance for a supply of powder  
for the troops at Washington and that the States  
Maryland and Delaware be requested to receive  
them suitable for the flying company with arms  
firearms and to forward them as well as dis-  
tances to the city of Philadelphia.

Agreeable to the order of the Day, Hays espousing these views as a committee of the whole to send into their parish for consideration the following resolution.

The presiding minister the Rev. Mr. Hays proposed that the committee of the whole be again agreed to a declaration which he delivered on

The declaration being again read was agreed to as follows:

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.  
A DECLARATION  
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

July 4

55

[illegible][illegible]

which depended on their operations till the Adversary could not deny the  
match itself. People would not give the Right of Protection taken in  
from the Dependency of their public. But for the sake of the People of  
his, for some, on the River, the House.

to the Legislative Power, except of Amendment, have re-  
solved the Danger of Invasion from without, and Convention with  
the Law for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass crimes  
and.

Asking Judiciary Powers,  
the American and Government of their State  
the People, and Government their Substance,  
or Legislature.

And unacknowledged to our Law, give y<sup>e</sup> M<sup>ty</sup> to their Act of  
Should commit on the Independence of these States

theirs an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Domination, is  
into these Colonies;  
nity the Form of our Government;  
gulate for us in all Cases whatsoever,  
or against us.  
re of our People.  
Works of Death, Melancholy, and Tyranny, already begun with the  
ing one with this Head of a reviv'd National  
and their Country, to honour the Exaltation of these Friends and

tributes of our Fraternity, the merciful Indian Saviour, whose  
 Tenor. Our exalted Patriarchs have been addressed only by prepa-  
 ration, as being by the Ruler of a Free People.  
 From Time to Time of Attendance by their Legislature to extend to  
 the citizens and settlements of here. We have accepted of their native  
 language, their "Vernacular," which would surely be testimony to  
 the sanctity of their language, according to the "Nations," "Laws"  
 in Power, Friends.  
 AFRICA IN GEORGE'S CONGRESS. At the Annual, 1840,  
 and by the American people, and the American people, and the  
 AND INDEPENDENT STATES: the day  
 them and the State of Georgia, in 1840, to the day of the  
 and the day of the year 1840, to the day of the year 1840, to the  
 many of the day. And for the support of the Declaration, which  
 our Portraits, and our sacred Hopes.

Signed by O. A. N. S. and

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT.

ATTENT: CHARLES THOMSON, SECRETARY.

10



*Independence*; and found that in this investigation, I had unknowingly been pretty much treading in his footsteps.

It may be explained here, that there are *three* original manuscript journals, which are almost wholly in the handwriting of Charles Thomson: 1st. The Rough Journal, so called, consisting of entries made probably while Congress was sitting, which is the standard. 2d. The Smooth Journal, a copy of the previous, the entries being somewhat amplified and punctuated. The 3d is the Secret Journal, which is not a daily record, the consecutive dates of a portion in 1776 being June 24; July 8, 11, 17, 19; August 2; then November 27. There is consequently in the Secret Journal no entry under July 4, 1776.

In the manuscript Smooth Journal, the declaration is wholly in writing, with no attesting clause, and no names attached, either in writing or in print.

Upon examining the Rough Journal, much to my surprise, I found no *written* names appended to the Declaration, not even Hancock's, and the Declaration itself, with the attestation, is *in print* on a large folded sheet of paper, attached by four red wafers. These facts do not appear to have been generally known, or at least have not appeared in print, before the publication of Judge Chamberlain's pamphlet.

The page of the journal of July 4th is towards the left hand, and is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  by 8 inches with a margin of  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, on the edge of the page at the left, not separated by any line. In the margin is a duplicate date, and in the body of the page the writing covers slightly more than half of the page; the lower part being left blank, undoubtedly to receive the printed broadside now found there. This page of the journal is here reproduced in fac-simile, a photo-lithograph, and reduced one-half size of the original. For this especial favor,—the first time that any portions of these journals have been reproduced in fac-simile,—the author is indebted to the Hon. William F. Wharton, Assistant Secretary of State, and to Frederick Bancroft, Esq., Chief of the Bureau of Rolls and Library.

The Declaration is on paper 18 inches long by  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide; the print covering a space  $17\frac{7}{8}$  by  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches. It is folded upwards at the bottom of the page (where it is at the present time worn away and torn completely across,) and folded a second time in closing the book. It begins and ends as follows, the positions of the wafers being also shown:

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.  
 A DECLARATION  
 BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
 IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

WHEN in the course of human events, it becomes necessary

[Here follows the Declaration]

Signed by ORDER and in BEHALF of the CONGRESS,  
 JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT.

ATTEST.

CHARLES THOMSON, SECRETARY.

PHILADELPHIA: PRINTED BY JOHN DUNLAP.

Lossing states that the Declaration was passed about two o'clock.<sup>1</sup> It was printed during the day and evening; and the next day sent forth to the world.<sup>2</sup> On the 8th, by order of the Committee of Safety, it was publicly read by John Nixon from the State House steps. In Judge Chamberlain's *Authentication*, a letter from Theodore F. Dwight, librarian of the State Department, states that this first publication is the one wafered in the journal, and that among the papers of Washington is another copy, the same which he read, or caused to be read, to the army.

The Declaration was also published in the *Evening Post* of July 6th, signed by the President and Secretary, and later it appeared in other papers.

The reader has now before him all the facts upon which the foregoing diversified opinions are based. It is seen that there is no copy of the Declaration signed in the *handwriting* of any one on July 4th, the only attestation being in *print*; and no paper is known such as mentioned by Jefferson, signed by all the members. It cannot be denied that such a paper ever existed, for "it may have lost," says Judge Chamberlain,

<sup>1</sup> *Field Book*, 1860, ii., 78.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 317; Frothingham, 544.

“but there are facts making it far more probable that it never existed.”<sup>1</sup>

The responsibility of inserting the names in the printed journal cannot now be determined, and it is reasonable to suppose that there was no intention to mislead. The Secret Journal had not then been printed; and since the only entry as to the engrossing and signing of the Declaration is contained in it, the names were probably inserted in the public journal for the information of the public.<sup>2</sup> It is unfortunate, for it makes the printed journal assert facts on July 4th which did not take place until August or later.

Since there is no Declaration known, in or out of the journals of Congress, containing the *written* signatures of the president and secretary affixed on the 4th of July, and not a scrap of evidence that such a paper ever existed, the author considers it very doubtful whether even Hancock or Thomson signed on the 4th.

In the first place it was not the custom of the Continental Congress that resolutions in general should be *signed* by any one. When passed, they were entered on the journal. Subsequently, copies of resolutions that were sent to General Washington and others, were authenticated by the written signature of John Hancock; but such papers were *copies*, and not original records. There are no *signed resolutions* among the miscellaneous papers of Congress preserved by Charles Thomson. This volume of papers was shown to me when making inquiries at the Department of State, where the facts in this paragraph were ascertained. In answer to a further inquiry as to whether there are any resolutions of the Continental Congress signed in writing by the President, or by the President and Secretary, the following letter states the matter officially:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON, October 21, 1889.

ROBERDEAU BUCHANAN, ESQR.,

The Clarendon, Washington City.

Sir: In reply to the enquiry contained in your letter of the 3d instant, I have to say that there are not in the Archives of the Continental Congress in this Department any resolutions or other papers signed *in writing* by the President or by the President and Secretary prior to their entry on the journals.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. FENNER LEE, *Chief Clerk.*

<sup>1</sup> *Authentication*, p. 15.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 20, Letter of T. F. Dwight.

Is it likely that John Hancock would violate the usual custom of Congress by signing the Declaration unless especially authorized to do so? And the question may also be asked: If it required a formal resolution to prepare and sign the engrossed Declaration on the 2d of August, would it not likewise have required a similar resolution for Hancock to sign the Declaration on the 4th of July? No such resolution appears on the journal, and we may therefore doubt such alleged signing. In accordance with custom, the entry on the journal is a sufficient attestation of the *fact* that the Declaration had passed Congress.

No argument can be drawn from the wording of the attesting clause—*Signed by order and in behalf of*—that it presupposes a resolution of Congress; because these words, and others of similar import, have several times been made use of in other documents, showing the phrase to be one of common use in those days, but perhaps obsolete at the present time.<sup>1</sup>

As no Declaration bearing the written *signature* of John Hancock on July 4th is known ever to have been in existence, we have only the *printed* Declaration from which to infer the signing. This signing, if it was done, was not the vital act, giving life and force to the Declaration; but merely the attestation of that act already consummated; and, judging by the printed broadside, performed wholly for the satisfaction of the public. It was therefore a matter of secondary importance. This written copy itself was not intended to go before the public, or to be used in any legal proceeding; it was simply a printer's copy, and the printed Declaration made from it would be the same whether printed from genuine signatures or from the same names written by another person. And from these considerations, the author hazards the conjecture that *no one properly signed on July 4th*. But in preparing a copy of the

<sup>1</sup>In support of this statement, the following may be found in Force's *American Archives*: IV., vi., 1136, Address to Gen. Washington, June 29, 1776, "By desire, and in behalf of the several Regiments in the Second Brigade;" IV., vi., 847, Petition of Gen. Daniel Roberdeau to the Assembly, May 20, 1776, "Signed in behalf of, and by the desire of the inhabitants," etc.; V., i., 170, Address to Gen. Roberdeau, July 10, 1776, "Signed by order and in behalf of the Battalion;" V., ii., 1075, Address of inhabitants of New Jersey to Governor Tryon, October 16, 1776, "Signed by desire and in behalf of the inhabitants;" V., iii., 484, Address by a meeting of citizens, November 2, 1776, "Signed by order and in behalf of, the meeting." These were found by casually turning over the pages of Force's *Archives*; doubtless there are others. See also *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, pp. 61, 62, 63, 68. This same wording much amplified is also made use of in the *Articles of Confederation*.



Declaration for the printer, some one,—perhaps Charles Thomson, used the customary attesting phrase, and wrote his own name as secretary, and that of John Hancock as president. And this paper being no part of the public records was not preserved. Thus these two names might have appeared in print, with no manuscript as their authority, to turn up at a later day for the satisfaction of investigators.

This view presented itself to me upon reading the broad expression *authenticated*, made use of by George Bancroft and others, as though they did not feel warranted by the facts to employ the unequivocal word *signed*. Hancock could “authenticate” the Declaration by directing Charles Thomson to write his name for him in the printer’s copy, although that act would not be *signing*.

This opinion is admitted to be a mere inference, but it is a simple inference, and a natural one to be drawn when there is no evidence. It stands upon grounds certainly as firm as the opposite side of the question, which is based upon a complex inference; that because there are printed signatures there must have been written ones. The simple and plain inference here is, that because there are printed signatures there may have been *written names*; but to go farther, and infer again that those written names were *genuine signatures*, is a double inference not warranted.

Considered under the theory of probabilities, if we assume the chances to be equal, whether there were written names or not, the probability that there were, is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . And if the chances are equal that the written names were signatures, the probability of this being so, is  $\frac{1}{2}$  of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or  $\frac{1}{4}$ . The probability that they were *not* signatures, is also  $\frac{1}{4}$  (because we suppose the chances to be the same), and these two fourths together make up the half first obtained. Suppose now, to further illustrate this, we make a new condition, and ask, whether the names were written with a pen or a pencil; if one is just as likely to occur as the other, the probability is  $\frac{1}{2}$  of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or  $\frac{1}{8}$ .

We see, therefore, that like a pair of scales, there is a balance kept up; the more we weigh down one side with conditions the higher does the other side ascend, and the lighter or less is the probability of the occurrence. The *degree* of probability may be different in each step, but the reasoning will be the same; for example, the probability of there having been written names may be greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and persons may differ in their estimates of these quantities. However they

may be varied, the more steps we take from known facts the less the probability; the probability of the first step (that there were written names) must necessarily be greater than the second step (that these names are genuine signatures), because the latter is represented by the product of two proper fractions, which product must necessarily be less than either fraction. The second step *may* equal, but can never exceed the former in probability. Therefore we conclude that it is more probable that there were written names, than that they were genuine signatures.

Another aspect of the question is this: It being a legal maxim that it is impossible to prove a negative, the burden of proof is thrown upon those who hold the affirmative of any question to bring forward evidence to support it; and that has not been done in this case, for an inference is not proof; therefore the negative side of this question should stand until overthrown by some evidence; and we must hold that the names were not genuine signatures.

Why it is, that in preference to this simple negative inference, the far-fetched affirmative side should be generally held, can easily be explained if we examine the facts as they successively became known. The copies of the Declaration sent to the States, the published journals of Congress, and the engrossed Declaration itself, all point to the 4th of July as the date of the general signing. Mr. McKean alone held the correct opinion, and he was contradicted by Jefferson and Adams. This opinion generally obtained for forty-five years, until the Secret Journals were published in 1821. So strong a hold has it taken upon the public mind, that like many popular fallacies it has gained the impress of truth. It is still held by the vast majority of people, and doubtless will also be till the end of time. When the Secret Journals were published, and it was found that the general signing did not take place on July 4th, this popular idea of *signing*, still holding possession of the minds of investigators, warped their judgment; and imbued with the idea that *somebody* signed on the 4th, if not the fifty-six, they naturally turned to the first printed copies of the Declaration, and from them inferred that John Hancock and Charles Thomson were those who *signed* on that day.

The main question having now been considered in the light of the custom of Congress, demonstrated by mathematics, judged by legal maxims, and examined with our minds not warped by pre-conceived notions, we are constrained to the



of that state and report the result of their enquiry as soon as possible to Congress.

July 17. 1776

Resolved That the committee appointed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of this month "to make strict enquiry" be directed to apply to the Convention of Pennsylvania now sitting and request them to appoint a select committee of their body to confer with them on a matter of importance relating to that state.

July 19. 1776

Resolved That the committee be empowered to contract with a <sup>th</sup> vessel for the importation of goods to the amount of thirty thousand pounds sterling at his risk and fifteen thousand pounds sterling at the risk of the United States of America for the public service.

That the marine committee be empowered to purchase a swift sailing vessel to be employed by the said committee in importing said goods.

November 27. 1776

Resolved That a committee of three be appointed to procure a translation into the german language of the treaty between the court of London & the Hessians for troops to be employed in America: That the said committee be fully authorized to pursue means the most effectual in their judgment for communicating to the Hessians the said treaties and

NP  
The Declaration of Independence being engrossed & compared at the table was signed by  
the members  
of the Continental Congress  
in the city of Philadelphia  
on the 26th day of September 1776  
The members of the Continental Congress  
in the city of Philadelphia  
on the 26th day of September 1776

conclusion that no one properly signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776.

#### THE ENGROSSED DECLARATION.

As to the signing of the Declaration on parchment there is no uncertainty. The record is contained in the Secret Journal, first published by order of Congress by Thomas B. Wait in 1821. In this publication the record stands as follows, *litera-tim*:

"July 19, 1776. Resolved, That the declaration passed on the 4th be fairly engrossed on parchment, with the title and style of —'THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA;' and that the same, when engrossed, be signed by every member of Congress."

"August 2, 1776. The Declaration of Independence being engrossed, and compared at the table, was signed by the members."

This page of the original manuscript Secret Journal is  $12\frac{1}{4}$  by  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches, ruled with a red line forming a margin of  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches on the left side. The whole entry is seen to be a post entry, and interlined. It is in ink decidedly lighter colored than the rest of the page. This page reduced one-half size, is also here reproduced as a photolithograph.<sup>2</sup> For this privilege we are indebted, as in the former case, to the Hon. William F. Wharton, Assistant Secretary of State, and to Frederick Bancroft, Esq., Chief of the Bureau of Rolls and Library.

In accordance with the vote of Congress, the engrossed Declaration was signed on the 2d of August by the fifty-four members then present; Mr. McKean and Thornton signed later, making the fifty-six. This document is now in the Department of State; the signatures are arranged in six columns of 3, 7, 12 headed by Hancock, 12, 9 and 13 names, the delegates of each State in groups—except Hancock, the president, and Thornton who signed later—but without the names of the States (which are improperly printed in the published journals). Mr. McKean's name is the last in the fourth column, with the names of the other delegates from Delaware.

It is related that Hancock, the president, as he affixed his huge signature, exclaimed, "There! John Bull can read my

<sup>1</sup> See also Force's *American Archives*, V., i., 1584-97.

<sup>2</sup> This is the first time that any portion of these Journals has been literally reproduced in fac-simile, although portions have been very accurately printed by Judge Chamberlain from the letter of Theodore F. Dwight. The word *Declaration*, line 2 of proceedings of July 4th (*Authentication*, p. 18, l. 17), should commence with a capital.

name without spectacles, and may double the reward of £500 for my head. *That is my defiance.*"<sup>1</sup> Dickinson, who opposed the Declaration, said, "We are not ripe," to whom Witherspoon replied: "Not ripe, sir! In my judgment we are not only ripe, but rotting. Almost every colony has dropped from its parent stem, and your compromise, sir, needs no sunshine to mature it."<sup>2</sup> "There go a few millions," said one, as Carroll, of Carrollton, the wealthiest member, attached his name. "We must all hang together now," remarked Hancock; "Yes," replied Franklin, "or else we shall hang separately."

There were in Congress on the 4th of July, 1776, seventy members, of whom about fifty-one were in their seats. Some of these seventy afterwards joined the British, and the terms of others expired before the 2d of August, so that on that day only forty-seven of these seventy signed, Mr. McKean, the 48th, was the last of all to sign. During the interval, however, seven new members were elected as follows: Rush, Ross, Clymer, J. Smith, and Taylor, all of Pennsylvania; Carroll and Chase, of Maryland. Besides these, Thornton of New Hampshire was subsequently elected, and took his seat November 4th. He also received permission to sign, making up the fifty-six names.<sup>3</sup>

Immediately after the passage of the Declaration on the 4th of July, Mr. McKean obtained leave of absence to march with his battalion, and was not present when the engrossed copy was signed August 2d. As late as August 8th, 1776, Cæsar Rodney writes to Thomas Rodney that Mr. McKean is still in the Jerseys, and not likely soon to return.<sup>4</sup> On the 27th of August Mr. McKean was present at the opening of the Delaware Constitutional Convention at Newcastle.<sup>5</sup> And according to Mr. McKean's letter to Thomas Rodney above mentioned, and quoted on a subsequent page, and also the letters to Mr. Adams on a previous page, it would appear that he signed the Declaration between these two dates, and not as late as October, as stated in "Sanderson's Lives."

There are circumstances, however, which render this inference doubtful. Congress, on January 18th, 1777, directed that copies of the Declaration, with the names then subscribed, should be authenticated and sent to each State. The names

<sup>1</sup> Watson's *Annals*, 1884, i., 399.

<sup>2</sup> Lossing, *Harp. Mag.*, iii., 155.

<sup>3</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 317 *et seq.*

<sup>4</sup> Force, *Am. Archives*, V., i., 833.

<sup>5</sup> Journal, pub. 1776.

were then accordingly printed for the first time,<sup>1</sup> and these copies were transmitted to the States by Hancock about January 31, 1777. Mr. McKean's name does not appear upon these copies, although Thornton's name is there; from which it seems evident that Mr. McKean did not sign until after January 18th or 31st, 1777. William L. Stone, in his article, *The Declaration of Independence in a New Light*,<sup>2</sup> says, "Thomas McKean from Delaware, as he says himself, did not sign till January, 1777." Bancroft states in his *History*,<sup>3</sup> that Mr. McKean signed in 1781, which is in itself preposterous, from the nature of the instrument. Peter Force, who knew more of Revolutionary history than any man living in later days, does not appear to have known the exact date; he says,<sup>4</sup> "The signing by the members was discontinued at the close of the year 1776. . . . One signature only,—that of Thomas McKean—was afterwards added to the Declaration of Independence."

Mr. McKean in the letter to Mr. Adams, already quoted, says, "After the 4th of July I was not in Congress for several months." He repeats this in the letter to Mr. Rodney; but after the Delaware convention had dissolved, September 21st, he was probably in Congress on the 25th and 27th, for on those days he was appointed on certain committees. His name does not appear again in the journal during this year. From December 2, 1776, to January 30, 1778, he was not a member of Congress, though he was undoubtedly in Philadelphia or wherever Congress was in session during that time, and might have signed during this interval.

In the earlier publications of the Journals of Congress, as already remarked, Mr. McKean's name was omitted from the list of signers of the Declaration. "The error," says he, in the letter to William McCorkle and Son, June 16, 1817,<sup>5</sup> remained uncorrected until 1781,<sup>6</sup> when I was appointed to print the laws of Pennsylvania." In 1796, Alexander J. Dallas, also in printing the laws of Pennsylvania, discovered the dis-

<sup>1</sup> Journals; also Winsor's *Nar. and Crit. Hist.*, vi., 268.

<sup>2</sup> *Harp. Mag.*, lxvii., 211. Mr. Stone kindly informs the author that he gathers this statement only from Mr. McKean's four letters on this subject.

<sup>3</sup> Ed. 1886, ix., 60; ed. 1885, v., 16. Justin Winsor, in his *History*, vi., 268, and Judge Chamberlain, in his *Authentication*, p. 21, as collateral matter have quoted this date of Bancroft's.

<sup>4</sup> *The Dec. Ind.*, etc., London, 1855, p. 65.

<sup>5</sup> *Niles' Reg.*, xii., 278, and *Diary of Christopher Marshall*, Duane, 1877, p. 291 *et seq.*

<sup>6</sup> This expression and date may have misled Mr. Bancroft.

crepancy and investigated it. Mr. McKean's reply to Mr. Dallas, dated September 26, 1796, gives this explanation: "The journal was first printed by Mr. John Dunlap in 1778,<sup>1</sup> and probably copies, with the names then signed to it, were printed in August 1776, and that Mr. Dunlap printed the names from one of *them*."<sup>2</sup> Mr. McKean's name is omitted in the Journals of Congress, by Aitken 1777, and by Folwell in 1800. In the copies of the Declaration sent to the several states by Congress in January 1777;<sup>3</sup> and in *The Constitutions of the Several States*, William Jackson, London, 1783, and in the Laws of Delaware, 1797, [by George Reed]. His name first appeared with those of the other signers, in McKean's *Laws* 1782, which he had been appointed to publish in 1781; also in *Dallas' Laws*, 1797; in *The Constitutions of the United States*, William Duane, 1806; in the published Journals of the Pennsylvania Senate, December 2, 1807, under an order that the Declaration be read and inserted in the Journal; (This copy is peculiar, by reason of its having the name of Charles Thomson inserted under that of John Hancock, and before the names of the other signers.) In Tyler's fac simile of the Declaration 1818; *Journals of Congress*, Way and Gideon, 1823, and probably in all subsequent publications of the Declaration.

Of early official printed copies of the Declaration, the first was that of Dunlap, July 4-5, 1776; the next was by Mary Katharine Goddard in Baltimore, which is the publication attested by Hancock and Thomson, in their own hands, and sent to the States.<sup>4</sup>

Of fac-similes, the earliest was that of Benjamin Owen Tyler, styling himself "professor of penmanship," in 1818; it is in Italian script with fac similes of signatures, and certified to, by Richard Rush, acting Secretary of State.<sup>5</sup> This has been engraved on copper and published on vellum, and on paper. A fac-simile is published in Force's *American Archives*, 1848, V. i, 1597, bearing the imprint "W. J. Stone, Sc. Washn." One was published in New York in 1865; and another in *The*

<sup>1</sup> John Dunlap printed some of the later volumes, and Mr. McKean, without looking in the earlier volumes, may have assumed that Dunlap printed them all.

<sup>2</sup> *Sanderson*, where the letter is given in full.

<sup>3</sup> One of these has found its way to the Boston Public Library; a copy of another is given in *Hist. Mag.*, Notes and Queries, IV., 2d Ser., Nov., 1868.

<sup>4</sup> Winsor's *Hist.*, vi., 268.

<sup>5</sup> A copy is in the State House at Annapolis.



*Declaration of Independence*, Boston, 1876.<sup>1</sup> A photolithograph, half size, by N. Peters, Washington, D. C., in 1873, certified by C. Delano, Secretary of the Interior, and M. D. Leggett, Commissioner of Patents. Another by A. G. Gedney, Washington, 1883, photographed, half size, from the original parchment: below this are fac-simile of the signatures with the imprint—"Restoration of signatures, from a copper plate engraving in fac-simile, made by order of President Monroe in 1823."<sup>2</sup> Fac similes of the signatures alone, are given in Lossing's *Field Book of the Revolution*, 1860, pp. 80-1; in Winsor's *History* already quoted, vi., 263-6; Harper's Magazine, iii., 158-9; and in numerous other works.

The family of Commodore McKean, in Binghamton, N. Y., is in possession of what is probably a fac simile of the Declaration on parchment. The author not having seen it is unable to identify it with such as have been described.

It is unfortunate that at the present day the signatures can with difficulty be made out on the engrossed Declaration, which is in the State Department. A recent writer has said that the ink was *stolen*! that some one obtained permission to make a *fac simile* of the Declaration, and passed the parchment between heavy rollers which took up most of the ink, causing the writing to become faint, and many of the signatures wholly illegible.

#### WAR MEASURES.

On the day the Declaration was passed, Congress resolved that the delegates in Congress from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, the Council of Safety, the Committee on Observation and Inspection for Philadelphia, and the field officers of the Pennsylvania battalions, should be a committee to take measures for the safety of New Jersey. This committee met the next day, the 5th, and Colonel McKean was called to the chair. It was ordered that all the military march without delay to Trenton, except three battalions which go to New Brunswick.<sup>3</sup>

In consequence of the above order, Colonel McKean marched at the head of his battalion to Perth Amboy,<sup>4</sup> in New Jersey, to

<sup>1</sup> Winsor's *Hist.*, vi., 266.

<sup>2</sup> While this page is in press, Mr. Gedney states that this copper plate is the one bearing the imprint of W. J. Stone, and the same which caused the ruin of the parchment Declaration; that a damp paper was placed over the signatures to transfer them, blotting out nearly all the writing.

<sup>3</sup> Force, *American Archives*, Ser. V., i., 14 *et seq.*

<sup>4</sup> See also *Historic Mansions of Phil.*, Thompson Westcott, p. 488.

support General Washington. The Pennsylvania Associators were under command of General Daniel Roberdeau, who had been elected to the command of the Pennsylvania militia.<sup>1</sup> A letter from Colonel McKean, published in *Sanderson's Lives*, gives an account of his battalion being under fire. After the flying camp of 10,000 men had been completed, the Associators were relieved. In the Pennsylvania *Evening Post* of August 13, 1776, is published a resolution of the convention for the State of Pennsylvania, that such battalions as shall furnish their quota of the flying camp, may return home if the generals and field officers shall judge it to be expedient. And about this time Colonel McKean returned to his seat in Congress, and perhaps at that time signed the engrossed Declaration, as already related.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS.

A new Constitution for the State, proposed by Franklin, was considered in a public meeting at the State House, October 21, at which Colonel John Bayard was chairman; about 1500 persons attended. The Constitution proposed was generally objectionable on account of certain religious qualifications, as well as for various other reasons. Thomas McKean, John Dickinson and others, opposed it; James Cannon, Timothy Matlack, Dr. Young, and Col. James Smith, favored it.<sup>2</sup>

Not long after this, November 25, 1776, Mr. McKean presided at a meeting at the Indian Queen,<sup>3</sup> to counteract the influence of the Tories. It appears that they were in the habit of meeting at taverns, and singing *God save the King*.<sup>4</sup> These trifles show the earnestness of Mr. McKean, and the great interest he had in the cause of independence. Although filling the exalted position of a delegate in Congress, he deemed nothing too insignificant to receive his aid, when it led towards independence. He endured the privations of a soldier's life, speaks at one meeting, presides at another, meets with the Council of Safety, presides at the Delaware Assembly, and we next find him in quite another sphere.

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<sup>1</sup> Elected at Lancaster, Pa., July 4th, 1776, by representatives of the 57 battalions in the State. Thomas McKean was one of the candidates voted for, and received a few votes. (*Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, p. 67.)

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 324; *Diary of Christopher Marshall*, Duane, p. 98.

<sup>3</sup> Described in *Pa. Mag.*, xi., 103, 503.

<sup>4</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., p. 326.

## WRITES THE CONSTITUTION FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

During his absence in the army, Colonel McKean was elected a member of the convention for forming a constitution for the state of Delaware. No sooner had he resumed his seat in congress, than his attendance was required at Newcastle<sup>1</sup> as a member of this convention. He reached that place in a single day. Immediately upon his arrival, after a fatiguing ride, he was waited upon by a committee of gentlemen, members of the convention, who requested that he would prepare the constitution for them. He retired to his room at the public inn, sat up all night, and wrote that constitution *without the aid of a book or the least assistance*. At ten o'clock the next morning, it was presented to the convention, by whom it was unanimously adopted.<sup>2</sup> Understanding the wants and feelings of the people, well versed in law and the principles of republicanism, and a ready writer, he was able to perform in a few hours, a work that in modern times requires the labors of an expensive assembly for months.<sup>3</sup>

Mr. McKean relates this remarkable incident in the letter to Governor Rodney, dated August 22, 1813, already alluded to as published in *fac-simile*, in Brotherhead's *Book of the Signers*; the paragraph is as follows:

"When the associators were discharged I returned to Philadelphia, took my seat in Congress, and signed the declaration on parchment. Two days after I went to Newcastle, joined the Convention for forming a constitution for the future government of the State of Delaware (having been elected a member for Newcastle county,) which I wrote in a tavern without a book or any assistance."

This has been justly regarded as the greatest act of Mr. McKean's life; requiring not only a profound knowledge of law and politics, but a quick perception, a good memory, clear discriminating judgment, and a ready pen, to accomplish so much in so short a time. It will be remembered that this was mainly original work, there being few or none other constitutions in those days to serve as a guide. This constitution may be seen in *The Federal and State Constitutions*, B. P. Poore, 1877.

<sup>1</sup> Sanderson and others give this wrongly, *Dover*; Mr. McKean states it correctly in his letter quoted below.

<sup>2</sup> Sanderson, Goodrich and other biographies.

<sup>3</sup> Judson's *Lives*.

Mr. McKean's claim to be the author of this constitution has been disputed in favor of George Read, and although the counter-claim rests upon very untenable grounds, yet it would not be quite fair to wholly ignore it in this biography. Fifty-seven years after Mr. McKean wrote the statement just quoted, William T. Read, Esq., claimed that his grandfather wrote the constitution, because a copy was found in that gentleman's handwriting—a very untenable argument, for he *may* have copied it. Such a writing might be used in corroboration to strengthen other evidence; but it has no force as evidence when used alone. The statement in full is as follows:

“Among Mr. Read's papers I find a document in his handwriting indorsed ‘Original Draft of the System of Government of the Delaware State, with Amendments,’ which makes it certain that he wrote this first constitution of Delaware.”<sup>1</sup>

Not quite so certain, for the very caption of this paper is fatal to such claim. This heading,—Original Draft, etc., *with amendments* never could have been written until *after* the amendments had been proposed; that is, long after the original draft had been submitted to the convention; consequently this paper in Mr. Read's handwriting can not be that *original* draft of the constitution. The true original draft would not have been entitled the draft *with amendments*.

Mr. Read, so far as we know, did not claim this honor for himself; nor is any mention made of such claim in his biography in “Sanderson's Lives,” written by William T. Read.<sup>2</sup> It first appears in Allibone's Dictionary of Authors, in 1854, by whom written is unknown, but presumed to be by William T. Read, who was a member of the Delaware Historical Society, and therefore a very likely person to have supplied this biography to Dr. Allibone. And it was not until 1870, nearly sixty years after Mr. McKean's Rodney letter was written, that the grounds for the claim were made public. Why such delay in making known a historical matter, if Mr. Read really were the author?

In a note to the passage above cited, William T. Read then attacks Mr. McKean's statement. After quoting the paragraph upon this question in “Sanderson's Lives,” he alludes to it as “this fine specimen of glorification,” notwithstanding the fact that he has just made a similar claim in behalf of his own grandfather. Whether this latter should also be considered a fine

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<sup>1</sup> *Life and Corresp. Geo. Read*, William T. Read, 1870, p. 186.

*Ibid.*, p. 159, authorship so stated.

specimen of glorification, he has apparently left to the judgment of the reader. However this may be, Mr. Read then goes on further to criticise the several statements in "Sanderson's Lives," that the convention was held at *Dover* (which should be *Newcastle*), that Mr. McKean *himself* presented the constitution to the convention, and that it was adopted the *next morning*. Although these criticisms are just, yet the mistakes are not Mr. McKean's, but Sanderson's, caused by amplifying Mr. McKean's simple statement, "which I wrote in a tavern without a book or any assistance." In attacking collateral statements, Mr. Read seems to overlook the fact that the main question still stands uncontradicted.

It seems to be more than anything else, either carelessness or an error of judgment on Mr. Read's part to advance this claim for his grandfather; since he has neither refuted Mr. McKean's claims, nor substantiated a claim for George Read.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. McKean's character for integrity is sufficiently well established by his acts, and fully made known by the concurrent testimony of impartial historians, to warrant the statement that if Mr. McKean says he wrote that constitution, *it is so*. Lossing, the historian, in his *Biographical Sketches of the Signers* (1860, pp. 140-4), accredits Mr. McKean with the authorship, and not Mr. Read. Scharf, in his *History of Delaware* (2 vols., 1888, i., 187, 203), accredits the authorship to each in his biographical sketches, showing that he had not carefully examined the question.

George Read as president of the convention, would naturally require a copy of the constitution under discussion, so as to intelligibly direct the proceedings. The amendments on this paper being "in a different handwriting, probably that of the

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<sup>1</sup> This is not the only mistake or inaccuracy in the volume. The name McKinly is spelled wrongly throughout the volume. On page 344 Mr. Read states that Mr. McKean died June 17th, and that he had *eleven* children by his second wife—both of which are wrong. Regarding this convention he has several mistakes: He says in the text, page 182, that the sub-committee reported on the 13th, the report read a second time, and re-committed on the 15th, reported again on the 16th; and in the note page 187, these dates are given 13th, 14th and 18th respectively, all of which are wrong except the second date named. Moreover, the two pages are not consistent with one another. May we not also suspect Mr. Read of carelessness elsewhere? These, however, are trifles compared with the grievous historical mistake he makes on page 229 and elsewhere, in saying that "the Declaration of Independence was signed July 4th, 1776, *by all present in Congress on that day except Mr. Dickinson*." By this error of judgment he charges his grandfather with the inconsistency of voting against the Declaration in the morning and signing it in the afternoon.

Secretary of the Convention," (as William T. Read himself says in the above work, p. 186,) renders it still more probable that this paper in George Read's handwriting is the identical copy he had before him; since the secretary is the proper one to have supplied the presiding officer with copies of the changes and amendments made from time to time.

A recent visit to Dover disclosed the fact that there are now no manuscript records whatever in the archives of the state, relating to this convention. Even the constitution itself cannot be found. All the records were probably destroyed many years ago. Very likely the records were captured by the British at the time President McKinly was taken prisoner, as related in a letter of Mr. McKean on a subsequent page.<sup>1</sup> The journals of the convention were, however, published in 1776, by which it appears that the convention met August 27, 1776, George Read being elected president. On the 30th Mr. McKean obtained leave of absence on account of the sickness of his son and sister. He returned September 6th, and the following day with George Read and others was placed on the committee to draft the constitution. The committee reported on the 14th; the matter was read a second time on the 15th, and recommitted; reported again on the 17th. The constitution was partly agreed to on the 18th, and fully approved on the 20th. The convention was dissolved on the 21st.

#### CHIEF JUSTICE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

On the 28th of July 1777, Mr. McKean received from the Supreme Executive Council, the commission of Chief Justice of Pennsylvania; the duties of which high station he performed with zeal and fidelity for twenty-two years. At the time of his appointment, he was Speaker of the House of Assembly of Delaware, and a delegate in Congress from that State. Six weeks later he became President of Delaware. He took the oath of office September 1st following; and was subsequently reappointed July 29, 1784, and July 29, 1791.<sup>2</sup>

The period during which Mr. McKean exercised the functions of Chief Justice, was one of the most important and trying in the whole course of the jurisprudence of the commonwealth. It was at the time when the laws were unsettled, even the constitutions of the states undefined, and national existence

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<sup>1</sup> See also Appleton's Cyclop. Biog. *McKinly*, iv., 137.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, ii., 1559; Hazard's *Penn. Archives*, v., 621.

itself in question. The country was in the midst of a revolution when he came to the bench; and for several years the civil was necessarily subordinate to the military rule. Hence the interpretation of organic and statute law had to be made *de novo*; precedents had to be established, and the whole practice of the courts adapted to the changed relations which existed. The causes which were brought in his court were many of them peculiar to a period of war and conquest;—causes involving the most delicate questions, vital alike to the rights of the subject, and the vindication of justice. Trials for high treason, for attainder, for the confiscation of property, were frequent. A case rarely transcended in importance and amount involved, in any nation or in any age, was the forfeiture of the proprietary estates. The rulings of the chief justice, through all this trying period, and in their different causes were marked by great prudence and wisdom.<sup>1</sup>

“Chief Justice McKean,” observes a late Judge of the Supreme Court, “was a great man; his merit in the profession of the law and as a judge, has never been sufficiently appreciated. It is only since I have been upon the bench that I have been able to conceive a just idea of the greatness of his merit. His legal learning was profound and accurate; but in the words of the poet—

*Materiam superbat opus.—*

The lucidity of his explication, and the perspicuity of his language, which is the first excellence in the communication of ideas, was perfect; but I never saw equalled his dignity of manner in delivering a charge to a jury, or on a law argument to the bar. But what is still more, his comprehension of mind in taking notes, so as to embrace the *substance*, and yet omit nothing *material*, has appeared to be inimitable.”<sup>2</sup>

“All subsequent decisions of the Supreme Court have sanctioned his judicial fame, and even European judges yielded to him spontaneous praise.”<sup>3</sup>

Having heard the opinions of a judge, let us now turn to those of the advocate: David Paul Brown, who achieved an enviable distinction at the Philadelphia bar,<sup>4</sup> writes that Chief Justice McKean “was always considered a sound lawyer and an upright judge; . . . he was a stern and arbitrary man. . . . Though always deemed a very able lawyer, and a man of in-

<sup>1</sup> Armor, *Lives of the Governors of Penn.*

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., and also as quoted in Sanderson's *Lives*. Author unknown.

<sup>3</sup> *The Supreme Court Bench of Pennsylvania*, in Hazard's Reg., iii., 241, a similar article to the previous, and probably by the same author.

<sup>4</sup> *The Forum*, i., 327, et seq.

flexible honesty, was still a man of strong prejudices, jealous of his authority, and rough and overbearing in its maintainance. . . . Whatever may have been his deficiency in civility, he was a judge of great decision and force of character. During the course of his long judicial life, he never wavered in what his duty seemed to require."

L. Carroll Judson, also a member of the Philadelphia bar, says, in his beautifully written biography:<sup>1</sup>

"No threats could intimidate, or influence reach him when designed to divert him from the independent discharge of his duty. His profound legal acquirements, his ardent zeal, his great justice, his vigorous energy, and his noble patriotism enabled him to out-ride every storm, and calm the raging billows that often surrounded him. . . . His legal opinions, based as they generally are, upon the firm pillar of equal justice, strict equity, and correct law,—given as they were, when a form of government was changing, the laws unsettled, our state constitutions justformed, the federal constitution bursting into embryo,—are monuments of fame, enduring as social order, respected and cononized."

"He was without exception one of the greatest legal minds in our early history; filling every station with distinguished zeal and fidelity,—a man of eminent learning, ability and integrity, whom neither fear nor favor could bend from the stern line of duty."<sup>2</sup>

With two more quotations I will close these extracts, my purpose being to show that praise of the legal and judicial fame of Thomas McKean is not confined to the writings of a few; but is universally proclaimed by all his biographers. The following is from another beautifully written biography by David R. B. Nevin.<sup>3</sup>

"Of McKean as a lawyer, we may safely say he was master of that intricate profession. As a contemporary remarked of Tilghman, we may appropriately say of McKean, 'he took in at one glance all the beauties of the most obscure and difficult litigations. With him it was intuitive, and he could untie the knots of a contingent remainder, or an executive device, as familiarly as he could his garter.' Of his career as a judge, it is unnecessary for us to comment; for his judicial fame is the common property of the world. Pennsylvania, however much she may have suffered in many instances by irresponsible and unworthy political representatives in the councils of the nation, has always been justly proud of her incorruptible and learned judiciary. Ross, Tilgh-

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<sup>1</sup>*Biography of the Signers*, 1839.

<sup>2</sup>W. H. Egle, in *Penn. Mag.*, xi., 250; *The Fed. Const., Sketches, etc.*

<sup>3</sup>*Continental Sketches of Distinguished Pennsylvanians*, 1875.



man, Ingersoll, Rawle, and Bradford, with a host of others, were brilliant stars in the legal firmament of the old colonial times; and the lustre of the galaxy has not been dimmed by such modern luminaries as Gibson and Black. But the peer of them all was Chief Justice McKean. A faultless logician, fluent without the least volubility, wonderfully concise, with a naturally logical mind, well disciplined by severe and systematic training, he was a most brilliant advocate and attorney. As a judge he had few equals in this or any other land. When he assumed the judicial ermine, the laws of Pennsylvania were crude and unsettled; and it devolved upon him to overcome all these difficulties, and bring order out of comparative chaos. His decisions were remarkably accurate, sometimes quite profound, and always delivered with a grace of diction, and a perspicuity of language, which commended them to the cultivated legal mind. His personal appearance on the bench was a combination of proper affability and great dignity."

We have heard the words of his friends—it is but just to give ear to one of his opponents,<sup>1</sup> who says of Chief Justice McKean:

"He was well qualified for the office of Chief Justice, by his power to reason, discriminate and combine; his great learning, and ready use of it; his courage, firmness, and inflexibility; but little accessible to pleadings for mercy, and so much the slave of party, (as appears by the authority cited in the sequel to this sketch,) as to lend more than once, his judicial power to punish its enemies and still more his own."<sup>2</sup>

Other extracts may be found in the various biographies of Chief Justice McKean, too numerous to be inserted here.<sup>3</sup>

#### NOTED CASES.

The cases decided by Chief Justice McKean are contained in Alexander J. Dallas' Reports of Pennsylvania cases, in four volumes, 1754 to 1806. The first volume was published

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<sup>1</sup> Of those writing since Judge McKean's death, I have found but *two* who have written against him. See note at end of this biography.

<sup>2</sup> *Life of Geo. Read*, by his grandson, William T. Read, 1870, p. 335. The fact that McKean sent an express for Cæsar Rodney and outvoted Read on the Declaration, seems to rankle in the heart of the grandson, who spares no opportunity throughout the whole of his work to speak against Judge McKean. This is to be regretted, as McKean and Read were friends, as well as colleagues and compatriots.

<sup>3</sup> The principle of which may be named: *National Portraits*, by Longacre and Herring, 1839; Hazard's *Reg. of Penn.*, 1829, iii., 241; *Hist. Chester Co., Penn.*, by John Smith Futhy (Judge of the Chester Co. Court) and Gilbert Cope, besides other extracts in the various works already quoted.

in 1790, and the series dedicated to Chief Justice McKean. The other volumes appeared successively in 1798, 1799, and 1807. Lord Mansfield, then in his advanced years, upon receiving the first volume from Judge McKean, in 1791, sent the following in reply: "I am not able to write with my own hand, and most therefore beg leave to make use of another, to acknowledge the honor you have done me by your most obliging and elegant letter, and sending me Dallas' reports. I am not able to read myself, but have heard them all read with much pleasure. They do credit to the court, the bar, and the reporter. They show readiness in practice, liberality in principle, strong reason, and legal learning. The method too is clear and the language pure."<sup>1</sup>

Among the more prominent cases which came before Chief Justice McKean may be mentioned the following:

*Roberts and Carlisle* (1 Dallas, 35, 39). When the British took possession of Philadelphia, John Roberts enlisted in the British army, and tried to induce others to do the same. Abraham Carlisle was a carpenter, who received a commission from Sir William Howe to watch and guard the gates of the city, with power of granting passports. They were attainted for high treason, and the trial came in September, 1778. Joseph Reed was the leading counsel on the part of the State. The just performance of Chief Justice McKean's judicial functions during this time of war required not only the learning of the lawyer, but the unyielding spirit of the patriot. Proclaiming from the bench the law of justice and his country, with distinguished learning, ability and integrity, neither fear nor power could bend him from the stern line of duty. Regardless of the powers of the crown of Great Britain, he did not hesitate to hazard his own life by causing to be punished, even unto death, those who were proved to be traitors to their country.<sup>2</sup>

The fate of these men caused great excitement generally, and especially among the Quakers, to which sect they belonged. The Supreme Executive Council was deluged with petitions for clemency; private citizens sent a score of petitions, the ministers of the gospel, the grand jury, the jury which tried them; even the judiciary, Chief Justice McKean and Judge Evans, petitioned the Council for a postponement of the execution. Chief Justice McKean's notes of the trial were sent to the

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<sup>1</sup> MSS. McKean family, Binghamton, and partly quoted in Hazard's *Reg. of Penn.*, iii., 241 *et seq.*

<sup>2</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*. See also Hazard's *Reg.*, iii., 241.

Council for their information.<sup>1</sup> It appears from this that Roberts and Carlisle were the lamented victims of inflexible justice. The petition of the Chief Justice shows that he did not deserve the censure bestowed upon him by the quakers and tories, both in prose and verse; he simply performed his duty in passing sentence, the execution of which rested with the Supreme Executive Council, who could have pardoned the prisoners if they had found sufficient cause to do so.

*Samuel Chapman* (1 Dallas, 53) was also attainted for high treason in the April term, 1781, for not having surrendered himself on the 1st of August, 1778, as required by a proclamation issued by the Supreme Executive Council, in pursuance of an act of the Assembly passed March 6, 1778. The charge of the Chief Justice, which resulted in the acquittal of the defendant, was learned and circumstantial, embracing a lucid exposition of the law, and exciting the unqualified admiration of his professional brethren; while it dissatisfied and disappointed those men who thirsted after blood. No popular excitement against individuals accused of offences could in the slightest degree divert Chief Justice McKean from the firm and inflexible discharge of his public duty. His decision evinced the soundness of his judgment, and the disdain he felt for the popular clamor excited by the occasion.<sup>2</sup>

*A writ of Habeas Corpus.* Soon after his appointment as Chief Justice, an incident occurred evincing in bold relief, the independent principle of action which guided his judicial career. Twenty persons were confined in the Free-Mason's lodge at Philadelphia, on treasonable charges; and the popular excitement against them was extremely violent. They published a remonstrance in the *Pennsylvania Packet* of September 5, 1777; and application was made to the Chief Justice for writs of *habeas corpus* in their behalf, which were granted. This act, at a period of peculiar public agitation, created great dissatisfaction among the more violent whigs, in which many members of Congress participated. So marked was their displeasure, that Judge McKean, esteeming the good opinion of good men, next to the approbation of a good conscience, wrote to John Adams on the subject, explaining his course of action. For a statement of Judge McKean's position in this matter, the reader is referred to Sanderson's *Lives*; suffice it here to say in brief, that Judge McKean had followed the *Pennsylvania*

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<sup>1</sup> *Penn. Archives*, Hazard, 1853, vii., 21, 25, 44, 53, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

statute, which had somewhat modified the laws regarding *habeas corpus*, and by which all discretionary power in the judges was taken away, and a penalty of five hundred pounds imposed for a refusal to grant a writ.<sup>1</sup>

The popular excitement against these tories was so great that the Assembly passed a law suspending the writ of *habeas corpus*, thus preventing the execution of Judge McKean's writ. William Allen, a lawyer and a tory, in his *Journal* calls this "a law *ex post facto* and *pendente lite*, the very extreme of tyranny."<sup>2</sup>

*Warrant against Colonel Hooper.* Judge McKean's firmness in the execution of the law is exemplified by another striking example. In 1778 he issued a warrant against Colonel Robert L. Hooper, deputy quartermaster, charging him with having libelled the magistrates in a letter to Gouverneur Morris; and directing the sheriff of Northampton county to bring the said Hooper before him at Yorktown. Colonel Hooper waited on General Green, who wrote to Judge McKean that he could not consent to Colonel Hooper's absence. To this letter, the reply of the Chief Justice, under date of June 9, 1778, contains the following characteristic paragraph:

"I do not think, sir, that the absence, sickness, or even death of Mr. Hooper could be attended with such consequences that *no other person* could be found, who could give the necessary aid upon this occasion; but, what attracts my attention the most, is your observation that *you* cannot, without great necessity, *consent to his being absent*. As to that, sir, I shall not ask *your consent*, nor that of any other person, in or out of the army, whether my precept shall be obeyed or not in Pennsylvania."

There is a strain of inflexible firmness and unshrinking dignity pervading this letter, admirably illustrative of the whole course of his judicial conduct.<sup>3</sup>

*The House of Assembly* having asked the opinion of Chief Justice McKean as to the right of the crown to grant the charter to the Penns: he gave his opinion upon the question, which was afterwards judicially determined in the case of Penn's lessee *vs.* Kline, before Justice Washington of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Richard Peters, District Judge (4 Dallas, 402).<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> Under date of Oct. 1, 1777, published in *Pa. Mag.*, ix., 293.

<sup>3</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>4</sup> *Life of Joseph Reed*, William B. Reed, 1847, ii., 167.

In the *Issues of the Press* of Pennsylvania, by Charles R. Hildeburn, 1886, there is noted No. 3738, the following work, "Charge of Thomas McKean, Chief Justice, to Grand Jury at Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery held at York," 1788.

## INCIDENTS AND ANECDOTES.

It is related of Chief Justice McKean, by a contemporary, that "the Chief Justice when on the bench wore an immense cocked-hat, and was dressed in a scarlet gown. He discharged the office of chief justice for twenty-two years, and gave striking proofs of ability, impartiality and courage."<sup>1</sup>

Watson, the antiquarian, in his chapter on wigs, relates that "Judge McKean wore one, and was withal so partial to them that he intended to wear one of the bench kind; he engaged one of Kyd for one hundred dollars, and being found when delivered, so strange and *outré* he refused it, and was sued for the value."<sup>2</sup>

In those days it was the custom of the Supreme Court to hold sessions in the various counties. When at Harrisburg—at least while Congress sat at York—(1777-8), Chief Justice McKean lived in a substantial one-story log house, a short space below what is now Locust street. He wore an immense cocked-hat, and had great deference shown him by the country people. After the country was quieted, when he and other judges of the Supreme Court came to Harrisburg to hold court, numbers of the citizens of the place would go out on horseback to meet them, and escort them to town. Sometimes one or two hundred people would attend for the purpose. The sheriff with his rod of office, and other public officers and bar, would attend on the occasion; and each morning, while the Chief Justice was in town holding court, the sheriff and constables escorted him from his lodgings to the court-room. The Chief Justice on the bench sat with his hat on, and was dressed in a scarlet gown.<sup>3</sup>

Many anecdotes says David Paul Brown, remain of the great jurist both as Chief Justice and Governor.

One day when a mob had assembled outside of the Supreme

<sup>1</sup>*Graydon's Memoirs of His Own Time*, 1846. See also *Manasseh Cutler's Journal*, 1787; *Pa. Mag.*, xi., 108.

<sup>2</sup>*Annals of Phil.*, 1868, i., 197.

<sup>3</sup>*Day's Histor. Collections*, 1843, p. 286.

Court, he sent for the sheriff and commanded him to suppress the riot.

"I cannot do it," replied the trembling official.

"Why do you not summon your *posse*?" thundered the scowling Chief Justice.

"I have summoned them, but they are ineffectual."

"Then sir, why do you not summon *me*?"

The sheriff stunned for a moment, gasped out, "I do summon you, sir."

Whereupon the gigantic Chief Justice, scarlet gown, cocked hat and all, swooped down on the mob like an eagle on a flock of sheep, and catching two of the ringleaders by the throat, quelled the riot.<sup>1</sup>

The talented but unfortunate Major André, at an entertainment at Mr. Deane's in New York, read a characteristic *Dream*; "His allusions," says a loyalist commentator, "to Jackey Jay, Paddy McKean, and other rebellious — were excellent."

André dreamed he was in a spacious apartment in which the infernal judges were dispensing justice.

"As dreams are of an unaccountable nature" he says, "it will not (I presume,) be thought strange that I should behold upon this occasion the shades of many who for aught I know may be still living. . . . The first person called upon was the famous Chief Justice McKean, who I found had been animated by the same spirit which formerly possessed the memorable Jeffreys. I could not but observe a flush of indignation in the eyes of the judges upon the approach of this culprit. His more than savage cruelty, his horrid disregard to the many oaths of allegiance he had taken, and the vile sacrifices he had made of justice, to the interests of rebellion, were openly rehearsed. Notwithstanding his common impudence, for once, he seemed abashed, and did not pretend to deny the charge. He was condemned to assume the shape of a blood-hound, and the souls of Roberts and Carlisle were ordered to scourge him through the infernal regions." Next appeared the "polite and traveled Mr. Deane:" then "the celebrated General Lee;" "the black soul of Livingston:" "The President of Congress, Mr. Jay," and finally "the whole continental army," each of whom was "judged" in some characteristic manner.<sup>2</sup>

Another loyalist, now unknown, has left a long poem from which the following extracts are made:

<sup>1</sup>*The Forum*, as quoted by Rebecca Harding Davis in *Harper's Mag.*, 1876, lii., 871.

<sup>2</sup>Frank Moore's *Diary of Am. Rev.*, N. Y., 1860, ii., 120 *et seq.*

## THE AMERICAN TIMES; A SATIRE, BY CAMILLO QUERNO.

Hear thy indictment, Washington, at large;  
Attend and listen to the solemn charge:

\* \* \* \* \*

Wilt thou pretend that Britain is in fault?  
In Reason's court a falsehood goes for nought.  
Will it avail, with subterfuge refin'd  
To say such deeds are foreign to thy mind?  
Wilt thou assert that, generous and humane,  
Thy nature suffers at another's pain?  
He who a band of ruffians keeps to kill,  
Is he not guilty of the blood they spill?  
Who guards McKean and Joseph Reed the vile,  
Help'd he not to murder Roberts and Carlisle?  
So, who protects committees in the chair,  
In all their shocking cruelties must share.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bring up your wretched solitary pair,  
Mark'd with pride, malice, envy, rage, despair,  
Why are you banish'd from your comrades, tell?  
Will none endure your company in hell?  
That all the fiends avoid your sight is plain,  
Infamous Reed, more infamous McKean.  
Is this the order of your rank agreed;  
Or is it base McKean and baser Reed?  
Go, shunn'd of men, disown'd of devils, go,  
And traverse desolate the realms of woe.<sup>1</sup>

## PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

In September 1777, Judge McKean became the executive of the state of Delaware. It is stated in the *Life of George Read*,<sup>2</sup> that the presidency of Delaware was offered to Mr. Read who declined it, and Mr. McKinly was appointed. When the latter gentleman was captured by the British, Judge McKean immediately assumed the reins of government.

Under date of October 8, 1777, Judge McKean writes to General Washington from Newark, "By the captivity of President McKinly of the Delaware State, on the 12th of last month, and the absence of the Vice-President, the command in chief devolved upon me as Speaker of the Assembly, agreeably to the constitution. I had some time before accepted the office of Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, and at the time this

<sup>1</sup>*Loyalist Poetry of the Rev.*, Winthrop Sargent, Phil., 1857, pp. 10, 11.

<sup>2</sup>By his grandson, William T. Read, 1870.

unfortunate event happened, was out of the Delaware State, but thought it my duty to my country to repair thither, which I did on the 20th following." On his arrival in the state, Judge McKean found that all the papers, public records, and money had been captured. He immediately called out the militia, one-half in active service, and the remainder to hold themselves in readiness for instant service.<sup>1</sup>

When this high position devolved upon Judge McKean, while holding other high offices in Pennsylvania, he became thereby an especial object of British persecution. "I have had," he says in a letter two years afterwards to Mr. Adams, dated November 8, 1779, "I have had my full share of the anxieties, care and troubles of the present war. For some time I was obliged to act as President of the Delaware State, and as Chief Justice of this: general Howe had just landed (August, 1777) at the head of Elk River, when I undertook to discharge these two important trusts. The consequence was, to be hunted like a fox by the enemy, and envied by those who ought to have been my friends. I was compelled to remove my family five times in a few months, and at last fixed them in a little log-house on the banks of the Susquehannah, more than a hundred miles from this place; but safety was not to be found there; for they were obliged to remove again on account of the incursions of the Indians."<sup>2</sup>

Judge McKean held this office but a short time, and after making provisions for the defense of the State, addressed a letter to George Read, the Vice-President, under date of September 26, 1777, informs him of his accession to the office, the reasons for it, details his official acts and resigns the position, concluding his letter as follows: "Wishing you all manner of success in saving our country in general, and the Delaware State in particular, I am," etc. Addressed, "To George Read, President of the Delaware State."<sup>3</sup>

#### THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.

The committee appointed in Congress, June 12, 1776, pursuant to a resolution of the 7th, to frame the Articles of Confederation, consisted of thirteen members, one for each State, as follows: Josiah Bartlett, Samuel Adams, Stephen Hopkins,

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<sup>1</sup> Spark's *Corresp. of Rev.*, Boston, 1853, i., 443.

<sup>2</sup> Sanderson.

<sup>3</sup> *Life and Corresp. of Geo. Read.*



Roger Sherman, Robert R. Livingston, John Dickinson, Thomas McKean, Thomas Stone, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Joseph Hewes, Edward Rutledge and Button Gwinnett; on the 28th Francis Hopkinson was added, completing the number.<sup>1</sup>

The Articles were under consideration for several months, and debated clause by clause. On a vote relating to taxation occurred the first important division between the slave holding states and the states where slavery was of little account.<sup>2</sup> The articles were finally agreed to, November 13, 1777, and a copy being made out the same was agreed to on the 15th. This state paper, which is the first constitution of our country, was dated and signed July 9, 1778, by the delegates of nine states; the other delegates had not then been empowered to sign it. Thomas McKean signed subsequently in behalf of Delaware, pursuant to powers vested in him dated February 6, 1779, and laid before Congress on the 16th.<sup>3</sup> The last State Maryland signed March 1, 1781. This important document is preserved in the archives of the Department of State. It is on parchment in one sheet, a roll about thirteen feet long.

#### A HISTORICAL DISCREPANCY.

As the other four states ratified the Articles, the delegates added the date of signing. And here, as to the date when Thomas McKean affixed his signature, there is a decided discrepancy between the Journals of Congress and the original Articles of Confederation, which seems to have escaped the notice of historians. In the Journals of Congress, (the original rough Journal by Charles Thomson, which I have had the privilege of examining, page 265,) is the entry, February 22, 1779. "In pursuance of the powers in him vested, Mr. McKean a delegate of the state of Delaware, signed and ratified the articles of Confederation in behalf of that state." (See the Printed Journals, Way and Gideon, 1823, iii., 201.)

In the original Articles, the date is now much obliterated, but is apparently "Feb. 12, 1779;" the word "*Feb.*" is almost illegible, the first figure apparently 1 is a heavy stroke with a dot after it, the lower part of the 2 is wholly illegible and also has a dot following it. There is no trace remaining, even

<sup>1</sup>*Journals of Congress*; Adams' *Works*, ii., 292; Frothingham, p. 569. The following authors give but *twelve* names: *Hist. Old State House*, Etting; Lossing's *Field Book*, 1860, ii., 653; Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phil.*, i., 315.

<sup>2</sup>Bancroft's *U. S.*

<sup>3</sup>*Journals of Congress*, Feb. 16-22, 1779.

under a glass to show that the first figure was a 2 obliterated. Upon the articles being ratified by all the states, they are entered upon the Journal under date of March 1, 1781, where the date is given "Feb. 12, 1779." (1st ed., Patterson, vii. 48, and Way and Gideon 1823, iii., 591). In the Secret Journal, however, (Thomas B. Wait, 1821, i. 448-64,) a portion of the volume is devoted to debates on the Articles. They are entered at length, upon the Journal and the date given in full "February 22, 1779," agreeing with the first date in the rough Journal. But there is also a discrepancy between the Rough and Secret Journal, under date of March 1, 1781.

Hoping to clear up the discrepancy by an examination of early published copies, I found to my surprise, that in older publications the date is usually given neither 12th nor 22d, but "Feb. 13, 1779," and so given in the *Laws of the U. S.*, [John B. Calvin,] 1815; *The Federalist*, New ed. 1837, p. 480; and *Elliot's Debates*, 1854, i. 85.

In other publications and later works the date is given February 12, 1779, viz.: *U. S. Statutes at Large*, Richard Peters, 1845; *Hickey's Constitution*, 1855, p. 490; *Fed. and State Const.*, B. P. Poore, 1877; *Documents Illust. Amer. Hist.*, Preston, 1886.

Other works too numerous to mention, some of them published during the last century, give the Articles and names, but omit the dates. Others omit the names also. *McKean's Laws*, 1782, and Dallas' *Laws of Pennsylvania*, 1797, might have settled the discrepancy, especially the former work, but they give the names without dates.

It is doubtful if the discrepancy can ever be cleared up; February 22, 1779, seems, however, to be the most reliable date, for that entry in the journal was undoubtedly made on that date; and as Mr. McKean's authority to sign was laid before Congress on the 16th, and entered in the journal on that day, it does not seem likely that he would sign before the latter date. Lossing, in his "Lives of the Signers," appends an account of the Articles of Confederation, and states that Delaware ratified "on the twenty-second of February and 5th of May, 1779."<sup>1</sup>

About this time, Thomas McKean took the oath of allegiance before his relative and former preceptor, David Finney, dated January 25, 1779, that he does not hold himself bound to yield any allegiance to the king of Great Britain, but will be true

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<sup>1</sup> Ed. 1860, p. 327.

and faithful to the Delaware State.<sup>1</sup> Various judges, public officers, members of Congress and others took the oath about this same time.

#### DIFFICULTY WITH GENERAL THOMPSON.

This officer had been a prisoner of war, and when released on parole became angry because he had not been exchanged; and said that Congress had treated him in a "rascally manner." He was particularly bitter against Judge McKean, whom he accused of having hindered his exchange; and denounced him for having acted "like a liar, a rascal, and a coward." Judge McKean laid the matter before Congress, November 19, 1778, in an information of personal abuse; whereupon General Thompson was called before the bar of the house, and apologized.<sup>2</sup>

The Supreme Executive Council, December 31, 1778, also took notice of the "acrimonious remarks by Brigadier General William Thompson."<sup>3</sup> Judge McKean moreover sued Thompson, and got judgment for the large sum of £5,700 against him and the publishers of the *Packet*. McKean, however, released the damages in both cases, as he only wanted to see the law and the facts settled. Thompson then tried to provoke a duel with McKean; but McKean would not set the precedent of allowing a member of Congress or a magistrate to subject himself to a duel with every person against whom he gave judgment.<sup>4</sup>

#### MEETING OF MAY 24-25, 1779.

This public meeting was called to counteract the effect of monopolizers, and to devise means to reduce prices. General Daniel Roberdeau, recently a delegate in Congress, and a signer of the Articles of Confederation, was called to the chair; Timothy Matlack, David Rittenhouse, Thomas Paine, Charles W. Peale, Thomas McKean, and others, were present. A committee, appointed to carry out the purposes of the meeting, was made permanent. "The institution of this committee," it is remarked in the *Life of Joseph Reed*, "is a leading incident in the local history of these times." The meeting also resolved that "those inimical to independence should not be

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<sup>1</sup> Original in possession of J. Henry Rogers, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> *Journals of Cong.*, Nov. 19-23, 1778.

<sup>3</sup> Hazard's *Colonial Records*, xi., 653.

<sup>4</sup> Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phil.*, i., 393.

suffered to remain among us." An account of the meeting is given in full in the *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*.<sup>1</sup>

A pamphlet in regard to this meeting, entitled "Meeting of May 25, 1779," was published by Daniel Roberdeau, the chairman.<sup>2</sup>

The tories, who let no opportunity pass for ridiculing the public characters of the day, published a poem, of which the following is a portion :

AN HISTORICAL BALLAD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A TOWN  
MEETING AT PHILADELPHIA, MAY 24-5, 1779.—BY  
STANSBERRY.

'Twas on the twenty-fourth of May,  
A pleasant, warm, sunshiny day,  
Militia folks paraded,  
With colors spread, and cannon too,  
Such loud huzzas, and martial view,  
I thought the town invaded.

And now the State-House yard was full,  
And orators, so grave and dull,  
Appear'd upon the stage,  
But all was riot, noise, disgrace,  
And freedom's sons, o'er all the place,  
In bloody frays engage.

Each vagrant from the whipping-post,  
Or stranger stranded on the coast,  
May here reform the State,  
And Peter, Mick, and Shad-row Jack,  
And Pompey-like McKean in black,  
Decide a people's fate.

\* \* \* \* \*

With solemn phiz and action slow,  
Arose the chairman *Roberdeau*,  
And made the humane motion,  
That tories, with their brats and wives,  
Should flee to save their wretched lives,  
From Sodom to Goshen.<sup>3</sup>

HIGH COURT OF ERRORS AND APPEALS.

To this court, which was established by the Act of February 28, 1780, Judge McKean was commissioned with seven others,

<sup>1</sup> See also *Penn. Packet*, May 27, 1779; *Life of Joseph Reed*, W. B. Reed.

<sup>2</sup> Catalogued in Hildeburn's *Issues of Press of Penn.*, 1886, No. 3951.

<sup>3</sup> Watson's *Annals of Phil.*

November 20, 1780. The court was reorganized under the Act of April 13, 1791, and he was recommissioned with nine others, April 13, 1791. The court was abolished by Act of February 24, 1806. Judge McKean retained his seat as Chief Justice during this time.<sup>1</sup>

During this year, 1780, there was an urgent need of funds, and a few patriotic gentlemen subscribed \$260,000; the Bank of Pennsylvania was then organized for the purpose of supplying the army with provisions; for this purpose Judge McKean subscribed £2000.<sup>2</sup>

On the 25th of December of this same year Judge McKean, in a letter to the legislature of Delaware, resigned his seat in Congress. "I find," said he, "that my health and fortune are impaired by my unremitted attention to public affairs; what I undertake to perform, I do with all my might; and having very little relief in attending Congress, I find that this, the discharging the duties of Chief Justice, etc., etc., are more than I can perform to my own satisfaction. Besides, the rank I am obliged to maintain is greater than comports with my finances." . . . It is a proof of the disinterested principles by which the public men of that period were guided, that Mr. McKean had never received, in any year, as much emolument, as a delegate, as would defray his personal expenses while engaged in the service; and that during the last two years, (1779 and 1780,) he had not been offered or received a farthing. His resignation, however, was not accepted, and he continued his duties as a delegate from Delaware.<sup>3</sup>

#### HIS RESIDENCE.

Chief Justice McKean's residence being mentioned by various writers, a description should not be omitted here. For some years, according to Lossing, he resided in High street, now known as Market street, near Second. But in 1780, December 20th, the Supreme Executive Council directed that the honorable Chief Justice McKean be allowed to occupy Mr. Duché's house until July 1st next. In explanation of this, it may be stated that the Rev. Mr. Duché had been chaplain to the first continental Congress; but being of a vacillating character, after siding with the colonists, joined the British and went to

<sup>1</sup> Scharf and Westcott, ii., 1568; *Bench and Bar of Phil.*, John Hill Martin.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 409; Niles' *Principles and Acts of the Rev.*

<sup>3</sup> Sanderson.

England.<sup>1</sup> He was attainted for high treason, and his property confiscated. This property consisting of the mansion, coach house, stables and four lots, was sold August 10, 1781, to Thomas McKean for £7750, Pennsylvania currency, subject to a ground rent of 232½ bushels of wheat. A deed for the property bearing the above date was executed by the Supreme Executive Council, in which the property is described as being on the east side of Third street, occupying the whole side of the square from Pine street on the south to Union street on the north, and thirty feet in depth.<sup>2</sup> This building is described in the *Historic Mansions and Buildings of Philadelphia*<sup>3</sup> as "a large and splendid mansion in the Elizabethan style at the northeast corner of Third and Pine streets." An engraving of the house is given in various works;—in the *Book of the Signers*, by William Brotherhead, 1861, folio; in Sanderson's *Biography of the Signers*, revised by R. T. Conrad, 4°; in Watson's *Annals of Philadelphia*, (3 vols. revised by Willis P. Hazard, 1884, i., 413;) and in Scharf and Westcott's *History of Philadelphia*, i., 292. There was a large hall in this house, at the ends of which hung the two portraits by Peale, of Chief Justice McKean with his son standing by his side, and of his wife Sarah Armitage with a child on her lap. The mansion passed by will to the eldest son, Judge Joseph B. McKean.

#### PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

To this exalted position, the highest in the gift of the people or of Congress, Judge McKean was elected on the resignation of Samuel Huntington, on the 10th of July, 1781. General Washington sent his congratulations to him under date of July 21.<sup>4</sup> Being also Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, his holding two such high positions at one time raised a clamor of opposition to him. The press teemed with essays upon the subject, maintaining both sides of the question; in which the advocates of Mr. McKean enjoyed a manifest advantage. The chief point alleged was, that it was illegal to hold the office of Chief Justice while sitting in Congress; but it is evident that the authors of the outcry were incited either by envy or ambition, and not by virtue or love of country, because if his seat was

<sup>1</sup> See his life in Keith's *Provinc. Councillors*, p. 276.

<sup>2</sup> *Penn. Colo. Records*, xii., 578, xiii., 25; Scharf and Westcott, i. 420.

<sup>3</sup> Thompson Westcott, 1877, p. 90.

<sup>4</sup> *Writings of Washington*, Jared Sparks, 12 vols., Boston, 1837, viii., 112.

illegal at all, it was as much so before he was made president as afterwards. The Constitution of Pennsylvania, indeed, forbade the holding of two offices; but it was contended that this did not apply to holding other offices outside of the State; so that his being a member of Congress from Delaware would not conflict with the Constitution of Pennsylvania when he became Chief Justice. The outcry came chiefly from Pennsylvania, which was unreasonable considering that Pennsylvania had appointed the Delaware member of Congress as Chief Justice. It was moreover shown that several others were then holding these two offices in various States. It was decided that he could hold both offices; the foundation of the decision was, that one State could not interfere with another in its internal administration, which included the selection of its officers. Delaware could not interfere with the selection of the Pennsylvania Chief Justice, nor could Pennsylvania restrain Delaware in her selection of members of Congress; and Judge McKean's seat was properly held and his election as President was valid.<sup>1</sup>

On Sunday, September 2d of this year, the American army passed through to Philadelphia going south; followed on the 3d and 4th by the French troops. As the latter passed through, they were reviewed by Thomas McKean, President of Congress, who on this occasion, appeared in black velvet with a sword at his side, and his head covered. On his left were Washington and Rochambeau uncovered; and on his right M. de Luzerne, the French minister. As the officers saluted in passing, McKean responded by removing his hat; and afterwards complimented the appearance of the various corps.<sup>2</sup>

These were the troops marching to victory at Yorktown, and not many weeks afterwards, Colonel Tilghman, one of Washington's *aides-de-camp* rode express to Philadelphia, to carry the dispatches of his chief, announcing to Congress the joyful tidings of the surrender of Cornwallis. "It was midnight when he entered the city, October 23, 1781. Thomas McKean the President of Congress resided in High street,<sup>3</sup> near Second. Tilghman knocked at the door so vehemently that a watchman was disposed to arrest him for disturbing the

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<sup>1</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 415. Also Thacher's *Military Journal*, Boston, 1827.

<sup>3</sup> Probably a mistake, as he had recently removed to Third street

peace. McKean arose, and presently the glad tidings were made known."<sup>1</sup> And as the watchman—an old German named Hurry—called the hour he proclaimed in a loud sonorous voice, "*Basht dree o'clock and Gornwallis isht daken.*"<sup>2</sup> The dispatches were read to Congress at an early hour the next morning; and Congress, the same day went in procession to the Dutch Lutheran Church, to return thanks to Almighty God for the successes of the allied armies of the United States and France. Handbills were printed, dated October 24, 1781, announcing in large letters: ILLUMINATION,—that Colonel Tilghman having brought news of the surrender, citizens will illuminate this evening from 6 to 9 o'clock.<sup>3</sup>

As the time approached for the Supreme Court to meet, Mr. McKean, on the 23d of October, 1781, addressed a letter to Congress resigning the presidency. Congress accepted the resignation on that day; but postponed the election of a president until the next day, when on motion of Mr. Witherspoon, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. McKean be requested to resume the chair, and act as president, until the 1st Monday in November. To this he acceded; and on the 5th, John Hanson was elected president. On the 7th a vote of thanks was given to Mr. McKean for his services as president.

### THREE REMARKABLE INCIDENTS.

Three remarkable incidents in the life of Thomas McKean deserve especial mention. The first is, that he is the only member of the continental congress who retained his seat successively, with the exception of one year, from the Stamp Act Congress in 1765, and the first continental congress in 1774, to the peace in 1783. Pennsylvania members were limited by her constitution to a term of two years; but Delaware did not so limit her delegates.

The second incident is, that while sitting in congress as a delegate from Delaware, he was appointed Chief Justice of Pennsylvania;—both states claiming him, and holding high offices in each.

<sup>1</sup> Lossing's *Field Book of Rev.*, 1852, ii., 527.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 415-16. This work states that the first news was received by a messenger at 3 a. m., October 22, and that Col. Tilghman arrived on the 24th, confirming the news; whereupon the event was celebrated.

<sup>3</sup> Original in possession of Henry Pettit, Esq. A *fac-simile* is given in J. J. Smith's *Amer. Hist. and Lit. Curiosities*, N. Y., 1860, pl. lx.



The third is the number of high offices he held at one and the same time. While sitting as a delegate from Delaware in Congress, and the chief justice of Pennsylvania, he was a member of the Delaware Assembly and also Speaker, and for a while became *ex officio* President of the State of Delaware and commander in chief. The year before this, he was a colonel of the Pennsylvania Associators, and Chairman of the Committee of Inspection and Observation. Subsequently he held at the same time, the three offices of delegate from Delaware, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, and President of Congress. In later years he was Governor of Pennsylvania as will be seen further on.

When we reflect upon the number of offices he held, we can form an estimate of the vast labor he performed, and the unwearied application requisite to master the complicated details of litigated cases, essential to the faithful performance of his judicial duties. Yet amidst the violence of party animosity, in which he was extensively involved, although his holding so many offices became the grounds of complaint, yet his enemies do not seem to have charged him with any neglect of his duties.<sup>1</sup>

#### PUBLISHES THE LAWS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

As already noted in a quotation from a letter of Judge McKean, he was appointed by the Legislature in 1781 to compile the laws of Pennsylvania; which were published the next year with the following title :

“The Acts of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, carefully compared with the originals; and an Appendix containing the laws now in force, passed between the 30th day of September 1775 and the Revolution; together with the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania, and the Articles of Confederation of the United States of America. Published by order of the General Assembly, [Arms of the State] Philadelphia, Printed and sold by Francis Bailey in Market street. MDCCLXXXII.”

On the next page is given the resolution of the Assembly April 2, 1781, that Thomas McKean should publish the laws; And below this is his certificate that he has caused this volume to be published. The work is briefly known as *McKean's Laws*.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*National Portraits*, J. B. Longacre and James Herring, vol. for 1839.

<sup>2</sup>See John Hill Martin's *Bench and Bar of Phil.*, 1883, pp. 185-8; and Hildeburn's *Issues of the Press of Pa.*, 1886, ii., 382, No. 4179.

## CONVENTION TO RATIFY THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

About three years after the treaty of peace was signed, a convention was called to meet in Philadelphia, May 14, 1787, to frame a constitution for the United States. General Washington<sup>1</sup> presided, and after a session of four months the convention adjourned September 17th, having agreed to the Constitution.

Judge McKean was not a member of this convention, yet he was neither inattentive, nor inactive with regard to its proceedings. He had always been an advocate of the just rights of the smaller, against the overbearing influence and power of the larger states.<sup>2</sup> A vote by states was insisted upon by him, in the first congress of 1765, and in that held in Philadelphia in 1774, and the concession was made by the other states. At the meeting of the federal convention, he delivered to the delegates from Delaware, notes of the arguments used on those occasions, and at the same time offered, in private, his reasons in support of the security of the smaller states, to members who represented the larger. His influence prevailed; and the result was the compromise which pervades the present system.<sup>3</sup>

The constitution having been presented to congress by the convention, was referred to the several states for ratification. Pennsylvania after a hotly contested election chose delegates for that purpose who met in Philadelphia, November 20th, 1787.<sup>4</sup> Judge McKean was a member from Philadelphia. No business was transacted on the first day. On the 21st the names were read and a ballot taken for president, which resulted: Muhlenberg 30, McKean 29, Gerry 1. It being questioned whether any one had a majority, the convention decided that Mr. Muhlenberg should take the chair.

The history of this convention forms the subject of a recent work: *Pennsylvania and the Federal Constitution* by John Bach McMaster, and Frederick D. Stone, published by the Pennsylvania Historical Society 1888; in which the proceed-

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<sup>1</sup> He kept a journal of his social movements, which has been published in the *Penn. Mag.*, xi., 296; and the *Philadelphia Times*, July 31, 1887, etc., in which he records among other things: "Aug. 18. Dined at Chief Justice McKean's, and spent the evening at home."

<sup>2</sup> See *Papers of James Madison*, Henry D. Gilpin, 1841, ii., 751-2.

<sup>3</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*. (In the Senate each State has an equal vote, and in the House a vote according to population.)

<sup>4</sup> Scharf and Westcott's *Phila.*, i., 426, which gives the date wrongly 21st.

ings are detailed at length, and the exciting contests between the two parties narrated. A likeness of Thomas McKean is also given, with a sketch of his life.

The Federalists chose for their leaders Wilson and McKean, who took the management of the proceedings. After certain motions relating to the organization and meetings of the convention, Judge McKean on the 23d, moved that the constitution be read, which was done. On Saturday the 24th he moved that it be read a second time; and in a short speech said that they were situated in a new position, with no rules or precedents to guide them, and in order to bring the matter before them, he would offer a resolution; not that he expected it would be decided to-day, or in a week; and that all those should be heard who were opposed to the constitution. He therefore moved:<sup>1</sup>

“That this Convention do *assent to*, and *ratify*, the Constitution agreed to on the seventeenth of September last, by the Convention of the United States of America, held at Philadelphia.”

This motion was seconded by Mr. John Allison. The business was now before the convention; Mr. Wilson rose and spoke in favor of the motion, in a speech lasting several days. The principal speeches are given in Elliot's *Debates on the Federal Constitution*, four vols., Authorized by Congress, 1836; but unfortunately all of them are not reported. The opposition was assailed by legal arguments, by sarcasm, and by ridicule. Judge McKean said in the course of his remarks, that the apprehensions of the opposition respecting the new constitution amounted to this, that *if the sky falls we shall catch larks; if the rivers run dry, we shall catch eels*; and he compared their arguments to a sound, but then it was a mere sound, like *the working of small beer*.<sup>2</sup>

On the 10th, Judge McKean announced that on the 12th he would press for a vote. The debates were closed by a long and eloquent speech by Judge McKean on the 11th, embracing a clear and comprehensive view of the whole subject. He unfolded, in a masterly manner, the principles of free government; demonstrated the superior advantages of the federal constitution; and satisfactorily answered every objection which had been suggested. Arranging these objections under ten heads, he

<sup>1</sup> Not on Monday, 26th, as given in *Elliott's Debates*. This error is pointed out by Bancroft, *United States*, 1885, vi., 384; and *Hist. Formation Const. U. S.*, 1885, p. 384.

<sup>2</sup> *Penna. and the Fed. Const.*, 365.

considered them singly, and delivered his refutation of them in a lucid and forcible manner. He concluded this powerful argument in these words :

“The objections to this constitution having been answered, and all done away, it remains pure and unhurt ; and this alone as a forcible argument of its goodness. \* \* \* The law, sir, has been my study from my infancy, and my only profession. I have gone through the circle of offices, in the legislative, executive and judicial departments of government ; and from all my study, observation and experience, I must declare that from a full examination and due consideration of this system, it appears to me *the best the world has yet seen.*”<sup>1</sup>

The convention was criticised by outsiders in the public press, and Judge McKean did not fail to receive his share of criticism and abuse from the opposition. In more than one part of the State the excitement developed into a riot. In Carlisle, in particular, two figures labeled *Thomas McKean Chief Justice*, and *James Wilson the Caledonian*, were burned by the mob.<sup>2</sup>

Nevertheless a majority of the people approved the constitution ; and the next year a majority of States having ratified it by the close of June, a procession to celebrate the event was arranged in Philadelphia for July 4, 1788. A description of this celebration from the pen of Francis Hopkinson, chairman of the committee of arrangements, has been preserved and recently published.

The First City Troop headed the escort: *Independence* was represented by Colonel John Nixon, who had read the Declaration twelve years before at the State House ; *The French Alliance*, by Thomas Fitzsimmons ; *The New Æra*, by Richard Bache ; *The Convention of States*, by the Hon. Peter Muhlenberg on horseback ; THE CONSTITUTION, the Hon. Chief Justice McKean, the Hon. Judge Atlee, and the Hon. Judge Rush, in their robes of office, seated in a lofty ornamental car in the form of an eagle, drawn by six white horses. The Chief Justice supported a tall staff, on the top of which was the cap of liberty ; under the cap the NEW CONSTITUTION, framed and ornamented, and immediately under the constitution the words THE PEOPLE in large gold letters affixed to the staff. Next came ten gentlemen of social distinction, representing the ten States which had ratified the constitution ; The

<sup>1</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*, and *Elliot's Debates*, 1888, ii., 542.

<sup>2</sup> *Independent Gazetteer*, Jan. 9, 1788, as quoted in *Penn. and Fed. Const.* p. 488 ; see also McMaster's *Hist. People of U. S.*, i., 475.

Foreign Consuls ; The Hon. Francis Hopkinson, representing the Admiralty ; The Society of the Cincinnati ; various other societies, professions and trades brought up the rear.<sup>1</sup>

#### THE CASE OF OSWALD, AND IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS.

This case came before the Supreme Court in the July term, 1788.<sup>2</sup> Eleazer Oswald, editor of the *Independent Gazetteer*, was defendant in a suit then pending, and published an article against Andrew Brown. Brown demanded the name of the author, which Oswald declined to give ; he then brought suit, whereupon Oswald on the 10th of July published another piece over his own signature, which was the ground of the case coming before the Supreme Court. Chief Justice McKean considered that the publication would inflame the public, and prejudice those who may be summoned as jurors. He then asked Oswald certain interrogatories, which Oswald refused to answer. Oswald was then, by the unanimous opinion of the judges, held in contempt, and sentenced to a fine of £10, and to be imprisoned "for the space of one month, that is from the 15th day of July to the 15th day of August." The sentence was, however, entered on the record, "for the space of one month," omitting the explanatory words following. At the expiration of the legal month (twenty-eight days), Mr. Oswald demanded his discharge, but this, the sheriff, who had heard the sentence pronounced, refused to grant until he had consulted the Chief Justice. Judge McKean, remembering the meaning and words of the court, told the officer that he was bound to detain his prisoner until the morning of the 15th ; but having shortly afterwards examined the record, he wrote to the sheriff that agreeably to the record there, Mr. Oswald was entitled to his discharge.

On the 5th of September 1788, Mr. Oswald presented a memorial to the General Assembly, in which he stated the proceedings against him, and complained of the decision of the court ; and the direction of the Chief Justice to the sheriff, by which he alleged his confinement had been illegally protracted ; and concluded by asking the impeachment of the judges. The House in committee of the whole, considered this matter three days and examined witnesses. William Lewis made an elaborate argument in vindication of the judges ; Mr. Findley

<sup>1</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 447 *et seq.*; *Philadelphia Times*, Sept. 11, 1887.

<sup>2</sup> 1 Dallas, 319 ; Scharf and Westcott, i., 426.

spoke on the other side, and Mr. Fitzsimmons then made a motion that there was no cause for impeachment. After several unimportant motions, one by Mr. Findley claimed the attention of the house: That the action of the judges was an unconstitutional exercise of power; and directing the next Assembly to define the nature and extent of contempts and direct their punishment. Mr. Findley ably supported his resolution; but Mr. Lewis<sup>1</sup> satisfactorily answered him, that the legislative power is confined to *making* the law, and cannot interfere in the *interpretation*, which is the natural and exclusive province of the judiciary; and secondly, the recommendation to the succeeding assembly would be nugatory, for the courts of justice derive their powers from the constitution, a source paramount to the legislature, and consequently what is given to them by the former cannot be taken away by the latter. Mr. Findley's motion was lost by a considerable majority, and Mr. Clymer then renewed Mr. Fitzsimmons' original motion, which was adopted, and the memorial of course rejected.<sup>2</sup>

In pronouncing the judgment of the court in the case of Oswald, Chief Justice McKean made the following remarks:

"Some doubts were suggested whether even a contempt of the court was punishable by attachment. Not only my brethren and myself, but likewise all the judges of England, think that without this power no court could possibly exist; nay, that no *contempt* could indeed be committed against us, we should be *so truly contemptible*. The law upon the subject is of immemorial antiquity, and there is not any period when it can be said to have ceased or discontinued. On this point, therefore, we entertain no doubt."

These observations have since been repeatedly quoted as conclusive on the subject of contempts; and were cited with approbation in the famous debate in January, 1818, in the case of John Anderson in the house of representatives of the United States.<sup>3</sup>

Lossing in his *Lives of the Signers*, referring to this matter, says, "It was like 'the viper biting a file.'" And a late judge

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<sup>1</sup> The impeachment resolution was chiefly defeated by the eloquence of William Lewis.—*Brown's Forum*.

<sup>2</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. Col. John Anderson attempted to bribe a member, and a long debate ensued as to whether the House could punish him. Joseph Hopkinson quoted a portion of the above paragraph. See *Journals H. R.*, Fifteenth Cong., 1st Sess.; also *Debates and Proceed.*, Gales and Seaton, 1854, Fifteenth Cong., 1st Sess., pp. 722, 580 *et seq.*

of the Supreme Court, writing in *Hazard's Register of Pennsylvania*,<sup>1</sup> on the Bench and Bar, says of Chief Justice McKean: "Many charges were made against him, finally, and attempts were made to impeach him; but all proved abortive, and only shed new lustre upon his character."

This is not the only instance in which the legislature attempted a wholesale impeachment of the Supreme Court for political purposes. Another case occurred in 1804, which will be noticed in its proper place.

#### PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, 1789.

This Convention met on Tuesday, November 24, 1789, to frame a constitution for the State. It was at first proposed to reform the old constitution then in force, which was very defective, with but a single legislative branch; but this was afterwards abandoned as hopeless. Judge McKean was a delegate from Philadelphia. Being resolved into committee of the whole, December 1st, in which the subject was chiefly discussed, Judge McKean was elected chairman. He therefore could not take part in the debates; he was, however, the author of the clause making provision for the establishment of schools throughout the States, so that the poor may be taught *gratis*. On his retirement from the chair January 29, 1790, he received a vote of thanks from the committee.<sup>2</sup>

#### MINOR MATTERS.

A few years before this, Judge McKean was appointed by Congress by a circuitous sort of ballot, one of nine judges to settle a certain territorial claim between the states of Georgia and South Carolina. James Madison and James Duane were among the judges chosen.<sup>3</sup>

Washington's birthday was celebrated in 1790 by the Society of the Cincinnati; and Chief Justice McKean did not think it beneath himself to march in procession with them through the streets.<sup>4</sup> On the 17th of April occurred the funeral of Benjamin Franklin. The pall-bearers on this occasion were, the President of the State, Thomas Mifflin; the Chief Justice, Thomas McKean; the President of the Bank, John Morton;

<sup>1</sup> iii., 241.

<sup>2</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>3</sup> *Journals*, Sept. 13, 1786.

<sup>4</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 463.

Samuel Powell, William Bingham, and David Rittenhouse, Esqs., accompanied by the city officers, militia, and others.<sup>1</sup>

During this same year was organized the Hibernian Society for the relief of emigrants from Ireland. A number of benevolent gentlemen (among whom were several members of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, which society it superseded) met together on the 22d of March, and agreed upon a constitution, under which, on the 5th of April, the officers were elected, as follows: President, Hon. Thomas McKean; Vice-President, General Walter Stewart; Secretary, Matthew Carey; Treasurer, John Taylor; with other subordinate officers. The society was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania, April 27, 1792, upon the petition of Thomas McKean and fifty-eight others. The records being imperfect from 1793 to 1813, it is not known how long Judge McKean served as president. The society is in a flourishing condition at the present day, being in possession of an investment fund of \$70,000.<sup>2</sup>

In 1794 occurred what is known as the Whiskey Insurrection, in the Western part of Pennsylvania. Extreme coercion was about to be employed, and troops were called out by the general government, when Judge McKean suggested a mild and pacific course, which prevailed. Chief Justice McKean and General William Irvine were appointed commissioners on the part of the state; and James Ross, Judge Jasper Yeates and William Bradford (U. S. Attorney General), on the part of the United States.<sup>3</sup> On their way home after leaving Carlisle, two hundred men marched in, with the hope of catching Judge McKean and Judge Yeates, who was in his company; but being disappointed in seizing the judges, burned them in effigy.<sup>4</sup> Of this great uprising, much has been written; there is a full account in the *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, vol. iv, by Linn and Egle, 1876.

Towards the close of the year 1792 occurred the second presidential election, in which Chief Justice McKean took part as a presidential elector from the 3d Pennsylvania district. He cast his vote for Washington, who received the unanimous votes of all the electors, and who in due time entered upon his second term of office.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid., i., 458; *Histor. Mag. of Notes and Queries*, i., 83-4.

<sup>2</sup> Pamphlets of the Society, 1887-9.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. Whiskey Insurrection*, H. M. Breckenbridge, 1859, p. 190; also Egle's *Hist. Penn.*, i., 227.

<sup>4</sup> Hildrith's *U. S.*, iv., 505-11.

<sup>5</sup> Lanman's *Biog. Annals*.



## WRITES A COMMENTARY ON THE CONSTITUTION.

During this same year, Thomas McKean and James Wilson published a work with the following title :

“Commentary on the Constitution of the United States of America, with that Constitution prefixed, in which are unfolded the Principles of free Government; and the superior Advantages of Republicanism demonstrated.” By James Wilson, LL. D., and Thomas McKean, LL. D. T. Lloyd. 8vo., pp. 147. 3s. Debret, 1792.

Both of the authors were signers of the Declaration, and they had been the two principal leaders in the convention which ratified the constitution. McKean was Chief Justice, and Wilson an associate justice of the Supreme Court. Wilson was also at that time professor of law in the University of Pennsylvania. This work was favorably commented upon by that standard publication, the *London Monthly Review* for October, 1792 (iii, 155), which concludes as follows :

“The publication must be perused throughout in order to form an idea of the good sense, and manly eloquence of the speeches here made public.<sup>1</sup>

## COMMOTIONS CAUSED BY JAY'S TREATY.

The revolution which dethroned Louis XVI now broke out in France, and England with other countries declared war against her. Very naturally the popular sympathy in the United States was with France our old ally, and against England our late enemy. Assistance to France was proposed by many; and opposed by others, who raised the objection that the country had no resources, and was as yet but feebly established. To avert a war, a secret treaty with England was concluded by John Jay at London, November 19, 1794. On being made public in June following, a few days after its ratification by the Senate, (June 24th,) it was received at first with an almost united roar of execration throughout the land.<sup>2</sup> Public meetings in various places gave expression to the feeling against it.

In Philadelphia a meeting was held July 24th, at which Dr. William Shippen presided. Governor Mifflin, Chief Justice McKean, Frederick A. Muhlenberg, David Rittenhouse, Alex-

<sup>1</sup> See also *Penn. Mag.*, xi., 271; Allibone's *Dict. of Authors*, art. McKean.

<sup>2</sup> Randall's *Thomas Jefferson*, iii., 258-65-66.

ander J. Dallas, Charles Pettit, Thomas Lee Shippen, Jared Ingersol, Blair McClenachan and others were mounted on a stage and favored war with England. The treaty was read, and then contemptuously thrown off the stage. It was caught up by a crowd, who marched with it to the house of the British Minister and to Senator William Bingham's, where the treaty was publicly burned.<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless the treaty was proclaimed and war averted,—happily so for the country. John Adams, who favored the other side of the question, referred to this matter in a letter to Thomas McKean dated June 2, 1812, as follows: "Nearly thirty-eight years ago our friendship commenced. It has never been interrupted to my knowledge but by one event."<sup>2</sup> Their friendship however after that event continued unbroken to the end.

#### A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR.

At the third presidential election in 1796 Adams and Jefferson were the two principal competitors. Chief Justice McKean headed the republican list of Presidential Electors in Pennsylvania, being one of the two electors at large,—the second time he had filled this position. Pennsylvania was entitled to fifteen electors, and among those from the congressional districts, were Joseph Hiester afterwards Governor, General William Irvine, Colonel Samuel Miles, and Peter Muhlenberg.<sup>3</sup> This ticket, which favored Thomas Jefferson, was elected, received 12,306 votes in the state, against 12,181 for the whig ticket headed by Whelen, which favored Mr. Adams.<sup>4</sup> At the election, Mr. Jefferson received fourteen of the fifteen votes. Mr. Adams however had a majority of the whole number cast and was elected president.

#### HEATED POLITICAL AFFAIRS. PETER PORCUPINE'S LAWSUITS.

Politics still continued to agitate the people, the newspapers being not the least of the causes, which kept up the excitement. William Duane of the *Aurora* was particularly abusive in all his writings. At length, as we may read in McMaster's

<sup>1</sup> Ibid., and Scharf and Westcott, i., 475-81.

<sup>2</sup> *Works*, by his grandson, C. F. Adams, 1856, x., 13, and Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>3</sup> Lanman, *Biog. Annals*, p. 514.

<sup>4</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 485.

History,<sup>1</sup> weary of this abuse, a number of militiamen, led by Joseph B. McKean, son of the Chief Justice, one afternoon in May waited on the editor, and demanded an apology. Mr. Duane refused; whereupon he was seized, dragged down stairs, and flogged in the public street. For this chastisement, Duane entered suit against Joseph B. McKean and thirty others; but they were acquitted after the suit had hung on for several years.<sup>2</sup>

Notwithstanding this, Duane took sides with Judge McKean in his canvass for governor; but like many politicians turned against him eventually. His wholesale abuse brought him continually into trouble. In February, just before the episode above related, he became involved in a quarrel with the congregation of St. Mary's church; and together with Dr. James Reynolds was arrested and brought before the mayor. Judge McKean appeared in their behalf, much to the dissatisfaction of the opposite party.<sup>3</sup>

Duane continued his abuse, and the opinion with which he was regarded by the opposition may be seen from the following extract from the *Federalist or New Jersey Gazette*, August 5, 1799. "On Tuesday last, Duane the infamous Aurora man was arrested by the marshall of the district of Pennsylvania upon a warrant from Judge Peters, for publishing in the Aurora of the 24th *ultimo*, a gross and virulent libel upon the government of the United States." The libel, the editor then goes on to say, was, that in 1798, the British government distributed \$800,000 among officers of the United States as secret service money.

There was another also who took part in the politics of these times, so distinguished as a writer that he deserves more than a passing notice; and that person is William Cobbett, whose ready and sarcastic pen kept him ever in trouble. He was the editor of a weekly paper,—*The Gazette*, and wrote under the pseudonym of *Peter Porcupine*.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Hist. People of U. S.*, ii., 439.

<sup>2</sup>Scharf and Westcott, i., 497, 533.

<sup>3</sup>Scharf and Westcott, i., 497. Also *Wharton's State Trials of the U. S.*, 1849, p. 345.

<sup>4</sup>He was born in England in 1762, came to Philadelphia, and edited *Porcupine's Gazette*, in which he attacked and slandered almost every one; thereby becoming involved in suits for slander without number. Of all the opponents of Thomas McKean during his exciting canvass for Governor, Cobbett was the most rancorous. He "boasted of having immortalized the Governor in every country where the English language is spoken." (*Loy-*

In this paper in 1797, Cobbett slandered the Spanish Minister, Señor Martinez de Yrujo, and the Spanish King, calling the former, whom he nicknamed Don Yarico, a fop, half don and half sans-culotte; and the latter a poor degraded creature. For this, Señor Martinez de Yrujo complained against Cobbett, and he was bound over in the District Court charged as a common libeller; but broke his conditions and the cause then came in the Supreme Court before Chief Justice McKean. The defendant petitioned to have his case transferred to the Circuit Court; but the Supreme Court rejected it. Chief Justice McKean presided at the trial.<sup>1</sup> "His charge to the jury was a fine one. His explication of the law of libel did him credit," says McMaster<sup>2</sup> the historian, but adds that the Chief Justice turned libeller upon the prisoner at the bar. Cobbett was acquitted by a single vote, (10 to 9.) It is stated in the Life of Cobbett, that Chief Justice McKean then determined to suppress Cobbett's wholesale abuse, and collecting a number of his pamphlets, compelled him on his own authority as Chief Justice to go under bonds to keep the peace, and be of good behavior.<sup>3</sup> Cobbett, in his inimitable style, relates this in a letter to Dr. Joseph Priestley, as follows<sup>4</sup>—

"He then collected a bundle of my pamphlets and papers, and thereupon issued a warrant, . . . [which] stated that I had published

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*alist Poetry of the Revolution*, p. 171.) After McKean's election he sailed for England, and it was thought that he would favor the royalist side, since he had opposed the republican form of government in America; but no, his pen at once turned against the king and ministry, and he was soon convicted of various libels against the government and individuals, fined and imprisoned. By one of those strange freaks of fortune, he was elected to Parliament, but failed signally in that sphere, making several blunders. Allibone says that in Parliament he "roared as gently as any sucking dove." Southey declared that "As an author he stands very high; there never was a better or more forcible writer. In public he seemed almost against every one." (*New Am. Encycl.*) Judgments of the courts against him for damages he deemed as robbery; Parliament he considered little better than a mob for laughing him down. So even in his *Grammar of the English Language* (Letter xvii., § 181) he cannot conceal his sarcasm, as the following singular extract will show: "Nouns of number or multitude, such as Mob, Parliament, Rabble, House of Commons, Regiment, Court of King's Bench, Den of Thieves, and the like, may have pronouns agreeing with them either in the singular or plural number." See his Life, "How to Get on in the World," Robert Waters, N. Y., 1883.

<sup>1</sup> 3 *Dallas*, 467, December term, 1798; also reprinted in *State Trials of the U. S.*, Francis Wharton, LL. D., Phila., 1849.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist. of People of U. S.*, 1855, ii., 353.

<sup>3</sup> *How to Get on in the World*, R. Waters, N. Y., 1883, p. 60.

<sup>4</sup> *The Rush Light*, Cobbett's Works, xi., 427.

certain false and malicious libels against himself, Mifflin, Dallas, Jefferson, Munroe, Gallatin, old Franklin, the Duke of Bedford, Charles Fox, Sheridan, Lord Stanhope, Bonaparte, the Bishop of Bergamo, Pichegru, Robespierre, Talleyrand, Parker the mutineer, Napper Tandy, Arthur O'Conner,—and the devil knows who besides.”

#### ELECTED GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In October 1799, after a furious political contest with James Ross, Thomas McKean was elected Governor of Pennsylvania. There were two political parties: the *Republican* or *Democratic-Republican*, (a term which came into use about this time,) and the Federalist. The former, which was against the encroachments of the federal government, supported McKean; the latter, which favored the strong measures of the government, voted for Ross.<sup>1</sup> McKean received 38,036 votes against 32,643 for Ross, a majority of 5393;<sup>2</sup> The election marked an important era in politics; for it brought in power the new party which was afterwards destined to rule the country for many years.

#### HIS ELECTION OPPOSED BY COBBETT.

One of the most bitter opponents of Thomas McKean in the canvass for governor was William Cobbett. He had never forgiven the Chief Justice for his decisions in those previous lawsuits, and now his aggravating sarcasm, his great fluency of expression, and his pointed and undisguised statements, made him an opponent by no means to be despised. But the acrimony of the contest having long since passed away, an account of his attacks cannot fail to be interesting, but will doubtless now provoke merely a smile from the reader of these pages. The author does not guarantee the truth of the statements quoted; but that may also be a feature of Cobbett's style:

“*Judge McKean*: This vile old wretch who now disgraces the courts of the unfortunate State of Pennsylvania, was formerly a stable-man at a tavern in Chester county. The following lines allude to his state of innocence:

“OLD TOPER, to *currying* horses was bred,  
But tir'd of so humble a life,

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<sup>1</sup>*Life of Thomas Jefferson*, Henry S. Randall, ii., 506.

<sup>2</sup>*Legis. Handbook of Pa.*, T. B. Cochran, 1889, for the votes in detail; Scharf and Westcott, i., 498; see also Hildrith's *U. S.*, v., 314. Hildrith gives the votes each 10,000 too small.

To *currying* favor he turned his head,  
And 's now *curried* himself by his wife."<sup>1</sup>

In another place, with great sarcasm, he says :

"His [McKean's] grandfather was an Irishman who emigrated with the consent of his majesty and twelve good and true men."<sup>2</sup>

It would be strange if Cobbett's abuse should overreach itself and turn in McKean's favor. Can it be that Cobbett here, with a little confusion of generations, alludes to the Claverhouse jury mentioned in the Introduction? If so, it settles the matter in the affirmative that the Pennsylvania and the New England McKeanes have the same origin.

In regard to naturalizing foreigners, no one ever represented the matter in such a light as Cobbett in the following sentence :

"McKean. This *honorable* personage is not only canvassing as he goes his circuit (gracious God !), he is not only soliciting votes of the *present citizens*, but he is absolutely *making new ones*."<sup>3</sup>

Accusing McKean of trying to conciliate the Quakers whom he offended by the execution of Roberts and Carlisle, Cobbett writes :

"Now by St. Paul the work goes bravely on ! !' Nothing that I ever saw or ever heard of would please me half so well as to see '*The Honor*, the Doctor of Laws, Esqr.,' in a broad-brimmed hat and a cape coat. But halt ! What shall we do with the three tailed wig ? It must not hang dangling down over a piece of smooth mouse-colored cloth ; and as to *a cap*, it would never suit either a judge or a governor. A red liberty cap, indeed, some governors have been proud to wear ; but this, I take it, would suit worse with a Quaker coat than even a three tailed wig. Notwithstanding this difficulty, however, I sincerely hope the conversion will take place."<sup>4</sup>

About this time Cobbett turned his attention to Dr. Rush, charging that he bled his patients to death. Finally Rush sued him, and the case came before Chief Justice McKean, governor elect, but still in the bench, and Judge Shippen. Shippen then came in for his share of abuse, as well also as the counsel engaged, namely, Joseph Hopkinson (son of the signer and author of "Hail Columbia"), and Edward J. Coale (men

<sup>1</sup> *Porcupine's Works*, by William Cobbett, London, 1801, 12 vols., vii., 300, *Gazette Selections*.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vii., 333.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, x., 206.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, x., 212.

tioned elsewhere in this genealogy), a relative of Hopkinson, and a student in his office. Dr. Rush got a verdict of \$5000.<sup>1</sup>

Finally, when the election drew nigh, with every prospect of McKean's success, Cobbett became so wrought up that he published the following threat:

"I *know* McKean, and I know that it is my duty, my bounded duty to my subscribers in this state, to use all my feeble efforts to preserve them from the power of such a man. From private considerations, there is no man who need care less about the issue of the election than myself. It is out of McKean's power to hurt me. *I will never live six months under his sovereign sway.*"<sup>2</sup>

True to his threat, on the news of the election of McKean, Cobbett prepared to leave Philadelphia; but was not able to do so before execution was levied by Dr. Rush and others on his personal effects that swept away nearly all his property.<sup>3</sup>

He inserted in the *Federalist or New Jersey Gazette* of December 16, 1799, the following advertisement:

"WILLIAM COBBETT having, (in order to avoid the disgrace of living under the Government of MacKean,) removed from Philadelphia to New York, requests all those who may have occasion to write to him, to direct their letters to the latter city, No. 141 Water street."

On his arrival in New York he published the following card (January 1800):

"To the subscribers of this Gazette: Remembering as you must my solemn promise to quit Pennsylvania, in case my old democratic Judge MACK KEAN should be elected Governor; and knowing as you now do that he is elected to that office, there are, I trust, very few of you who will be surprised to find that I am no longer in that degraded and degrading state."<sup>4</sup>

He published the *Rush Light* in New York for a while, in which he continued his abuse on Rush, McKean, Shippen, Hopkinson, and Harper; and ended by consigning all Philadelphians to perdition, and sailed for Europe.<sup>5</sup>

The democratic-republicans went wild over the election of Thomas McKean, for it was the first triumph of the new party. Addresses were made to him, in various places; and banquets given, in which he was toasted. In the *Aurora* of November

<sup>1</sup> Ibid., xi., 360-3.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., x., 190.

<sup>3</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 497.

<sup>4</sup> *Cobbett's Works*, xi., 137.

<sup>5</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 499.

9th, appeared one of the party songs, which concluded as follows:

The day of election the Tories regret,  
Five thousand and odd 's a majority great;  
So here 's to the health of Republican Green  
And Republican Blue and old Thomas McKean.

On the 6th of November, at a town meeting held in Philadelphia, an address was prepared congratulating the governor-elect upon his success. To this, Judge McKean replied that under his administration their happy system of government, raised on the sole authority of the people, would, he trusted, by the favor of God, be continued inviolate; that neither foreign nor domestic enemies, neither intrigue, menace, nor seductions should prevail against it; and that the constitution of the United States and of Pennsylvania, should be the rule of his government.<sup>1</sup> The reply created some stir at the time, on account of its strong partisan language, and it was afterwards brought up against him.<sup>2</sup>

#### TAKES THE OATH OF OFFICE. HIS REMOVALS FROM OFFICE.

Judge McKean took the oath of office as governor on the 17th of December, 1799. In the *Federalist*, or New Jersey Gazette, of December 23d, 1799, is the announcement that McKean was proclaimed Governor of Pennsylvania on the 18th instant,<sup>3</sup> also that Edward Shippen is appointed Chief Justice, and Hugh H. Brackenridge, of Pittsburg, a Judge of the Supreme Court. This paper is deeply edged with black, as it contains the announcement of the lamented decease of General Washington.

As soon as Governor McKean entered upon his duties, he began a series of removals from office, of various persons, high and low, which he deemed for the public good. In a letter to John Dickinson, June 23, 1800, he says: "I have waded through a sea troubles, and surmounted my principal difficulties. I have been obliged (though no Hercules), to *cleanse the Augean stable*, with little or no aid; for I am my own minister and amanuensis."<sup>4</sup>

Governor McKean, as might be expected, was attacked by

<sup>1</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 504.

<sup>3</sup> A mistake for 17th.

<sup>4</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*, where a lengthy defense of these removals is entered into. In some of the volumes of *Penn. Senate Journal* may be found long lists of the Governor's appointments, 1805-6-7, and thereabouts.



his political opponents, and his course ascribed wholly to political antagonism. Alexander Graydon was one of those removed by him. He was performing the duties of prothonotary of Dauphin county "until his sudden expulsion by McKean, to whom," he says, "belongs the unenviable distinction of being the father of political proscription in the United States."<sup>1</sup> Charles Biddle, also a contemporary, says of the Governor, "I knew he was very much provoked at some severe pieces, written against him by my nephew, Mr. Marks John Biddle. However, Governor McKean and myself had always been upon good terms, and I had a high esteem for him, believing him to be a very honest man, although a very violent one, who had no command of his temper; but spoke whatever he thought upon all occasions." Although Mr. Graydon, who was remotely connected with the governor by marriage, was turned out of office, yet Biddle was retained, though he had every expectation of being removed.<sup>2</sup>

His political enemies, the Federalists, berated Governor McKean, as may be seen from the two following extracts from *The Administrations of Washington and Adams—the Federal Administrations*:<sup>3</sup> "After all, McKean is a better governor than Mifflin. He won't corrupt society more, if as much, and the work he does will be more open." (Letter of Chauncey Goodrich, Hartford, Nov. 18, 1799.) "McKean's administration has brought forward every scoundrel who can read and write, into office or expectation of one, and the residue of Democrats, with the joy and precocity of the damned, are enjoying the mortification of the few remaining honest men and Federalists." (Letter of Uriah Tracy, Pittsburg, Aug. 7, 1800.)

"Mr. McKean's gubernatorial career," says a recent biographer," was marked by great ability, and produced beneficial results to the commonwealth. He was a rigid partisan, well disciplined in tactics, a devout believer in the Jeffersonian maxim that, 'to the victors belong the spoils.' In carrying out his specific views of this theory, his wholesale removals of political opponents was unprecedented in our early history."<sup>4</sup>

The Federalists in the legislature now attacked Governor McKean for his speech on the 6th of November, as well as for his removals. It was moved in the House of Representatives

<sup>1</sup> *Memoirs of His Own Time*, 1846, p. xiii.

<sup>2</sup> *Autobiog. Ch. Biddle*, by Craig Biddle, 1883, p. 383.

<sup>3</sup> *Geo. Gibbs*, 2 vols., N. Y., 1846, ii., 288, 399.

<sup>4</sup> Nevin, *Continental Sketches of Distinguished Pennsylvanians*, 1875.

to condemn him, but that branch containing a majority of Democrats, the vote was lost.<sup>1</sup> The Senate, however, passed a resolution condemning him, to which he made a long reply, "declaring that the objectionable expressions were uttered before he assumed office; and that as regarded his removals from office, he relied upon his right to make such changes as he deemed proper without accountability to any person or party,"<sup>2</sup>—a reply characteristic of his firmness of purpose in what he believed to be right.

His object in removing opponents was not to make places merely for political friends, but to secure efficiency and harmony to his rule. For when the affairs of his administration once became settled on a firm basis, he did not adhere exclusively to his own party in making appointments. He twice elevated to the highest position in his power to bestow, that of chief justice of the state, gentlemen whose political views were adverse to his own.<sup>3</sup>

In verification of this statement, the following anecdote may properly find a place here. When Tilghman was nominated for chief justice, a committee was sent, who announced themselves as representing the sovereign people, the great democracy of Philadelphia, and declaring that they could never approve this nomination. The governor listened with his usual haughty courtesy, and bowing profoundly, replied, "Inform your constituents that I bow with submission to the great democracy of Philadelphia; but, by God! William Tilghman *shall* be chief justice of Pennsylvania." *And he was.*<sup>4</sup> He received his appointment February 28, 1806.

Another anecdote is related, of an appointment which cannot be charged to political reasons. A very worthy man (John Goodman) applied to him for a commission as justice of the peace; but stated very frankly that he had no certificates or backers. "Never mind," said the Governor, "I require none; and if any one should ask you how you got your appointment, tell him that Thomas McKean recommended you, and the Governor appointed you."<sup>5</sup>

Not long after this, Governor McKean removed his nephew by marriage, Joseph Hopkinson, and appointed John Beckley

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<sup>1</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 504.

<sup>2</sup> Egle, *Illust. Hist. of Penn.*, i., 234-5.

<sup>3</sup> Armor, *Lives of Govs. of Penn.*, p. 303; see also Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>4</sup> R. H. Davis, in *Harp. Mag.*, lii., 872.

<sup>5</sup> David Paul Brown, *The Forum*, i., 345.

to the office. A controversy ensued over this in which Joseph B. McKean appeared in behalf of his father. Governor McKean was also assailed for participating as Grand Sachem at an anniversary celebration of the St. Tammany Society, May 12, 1800, at Buck Tavern, Moyamensing. The ceremony was burlesqued in the *Phila. Gazette* of June 2d, 1800.<sup>1</sup>

Next President Adams made an appointment which set in motion a lively controversy. He appointed Alexander J. Dallas district attorney, which gave dissatisfaction, as Dallas was already Secretary of the Commonwealth. He resigned the latter, and Governor McKean appointed him Recorder of Philadelphia. The common council objected to this, as he held two offices. Proceedings were had and the case was argued by Hopkinson, Lewis and Tilghman for the councils, and by Joseph B. McKean and Ingersoll for Dallas. The defendants (Dallas) won the case, and the legislature at the next session took up the matter and passed a law prohibiting a person from holding both state and federal offices. Governor McKean vetoed this, as he could not admit thereby that he had done any wrong in appointing Dallas as Recorder. The House passed the bill over his veto and Dallas resigned.<sup>2</sup> It is readily seen that the root of this controversy was, that the law or custom of holding more than one office, was not then well defined, as it is now; and such cases as the above-related, assisted materially in settling the law and custom.

In justification of Governor McKean's removals from office, I know of no stronger argument, than that which may be drawn from the writings of his opponents themselves. I will first cite William Cobbett, in regard to the dilemma of Governor Mifflin's appointees to office:<sup>3</sup>

"Two candidates offered, Ross and McKean. In the latter they remembered indeed the old revolutionist; but they also remembered that he was not a Mifflin. Keen, vigilant, persevering, tyrannical and vindictive as they knew McKean to be, they were afraid to give him their support lest they should have him for a master; and afraid to oppose him lest they should be displaced. Being at last fully persuaded that Ross would succeed, they openly gave him their support. They were egregiously deceived. McKean was elected by a vast majority; and though his great age was one of the objections they affected to have against

<sup>1</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 504.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., i., 509.

<sup>3</sup> *Works*, xi., 387.

him, he soon made them feel that he was not deficient in point of energy.

"The first step he took was to annul all commissions during pleasure, granted by his predecessor. He had previously obtained exact information respecting the electioneering conduct of every one of the civil officers, whom he had power to displace; and according to this, he made out his list of proscription. He swept the poor fellows off by dozens, with as little ceremony as a foul feeding glutton brushes the flies from the meat he is himself going to devour."

Had Governor McKean transcended his legitimate powers one iota, or overstepped the law in the smallest particular, would not Cobbett have eagerly seized upon it? The fact that Cobbett does not bring such a charge is circumstantial evidence that Governor McKean did not overstep the laws in his removals. He first annulled the commissions "*during pleasure*;" he then made a list of those "*whom he had power to displace*." He had a clear right to remove these two classes. As to the office holders, Cobbett depicts them in an unenviable light, weak, unreliable and insincere to either candidate, thinking solely how to retain their offices. The removals are thus seen to be not contrary to *law*, although contrary to custom.

The letter of Chauncey Goodrich, quoted a few pages back, says, "the work he does will be more open," thus testifying that Governor McKean's work is not done in secret or in the dark, but is open to the criticism of his adversaries. The other letter quoted contains abuse, but nothing against McKean more than its language is against its own author. Cobbett's attacks, as may be seen from the extracts given, were generally abuse, or ridicule, that may have influenced some at that time. Such evanescent attacks contain but little to influence posterity.

The photolithographed *fac-simile* of a printed hand-bill on the opposite page, is given as a curious memento of these turbulent times. It has been preserved in the family, and is now in possession of the author. The photolithograph is reduced two-thirds of the original size.<sup>1</sup>

The news that the presidential election between Jefferson and Burr had resulted in a tie, was known towards the close of the year 1800, and much elated the democratic republicans, as the election would then be thrown into the House of Representatives. Meetings, festivals, and banquets were held in

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<sup>1</sup>The paper is torn and the print worn away in places. It is not known who wrote the line at the bottom.

BY DESIRE OF  
**GOVERNOR M'KEAN,**

Who means to honor the Theatre with his presence.

THIS EVENING, January 2, 1800,

*At the House of Mr. LENEGAN, in East King-street, Lancaster,*

*At the Sign of the White Horse.*

---

~~LADIES & GENTLEMEN~~ of Lancaster are re-  
spectfully informed, that this evening will be present-  
ed the greatest variety of amusements that has ever  
been exhibited in this town, consisting of

Pantomime, Singing, Hornpipe *Danc-*  
*ing*, Tumbling, SPEAKING, &c. &c.

And in particular an Indian WAR and SCALP Dance,  
by Mr. Durang and Mr. F. Ricketts.

Doors to be opened at six and the performance to begin at 7 o'clock.  
Tickets to be had at Mr. Lenegan's and at Hamilton's Printing-Office.

~~LADIES and GENTLEMEN~~ who wish to engage seats may have  
calling upon Mr. ROWSON at the Theatre.

ROWSON & Co.

---

Printed by William Hamilton, King-street, Lancaster.  
*No. one Box was appropriated and occupied by the Laurence,*



various places, among which was a splendid gathering at the Green Tree Tavern at Philadelphia to hear speeches, drink toasts, and sing "Jefferson and Liberty," till they were hoarse. One stanza of this favorite party song ran as follows:

Calumny and falsehood in vain raise their voice  
 To blast our Republican's fair reputation;  
 But Jefferson still is America's fair choice,  
 And he will, her liberties, guard from invasion.  
     'Tis the wretches who wait,  
     To unite church and state,  
     That the names of McKean, Burr, and  
     Jefferson hate.  
 But ne'er will the sons of Columbia be slaves,  
 While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its waves.<sup>1</sup>

#### SECOND ELECTION AS GOVERNOR.

IN the fall of 1802, Governor McKean was re-elected; his popularity gaining for him an immense majority, receiving no less than 47,879 votes, against 17,037 for his old competitor Ross. His majority was 30,000 in a total vote of 65,000.<sup>2</sup> Is not this majority alone a vindication of his three years administration? *Three-fourths* of the people of the state are with him. The opposition is headed by a mere faction, which however makes a great noise. Politics ran exceedingly high at this election also. A banquet was given to the Governor at Hamburg Tavern, and also at Francis' Union Hall. And a procession to celebrate the acquisition of Louisiana laid out the route of the march to pass the Governor's house on Third street, May 12, 1804.<sup>3</sup>

During this year (1804) occurred the Brackenridge episode. The legislature was acting on a matter of the impeachment of three of the four judges of the supreme court, for alleged arbitrary conduct in committing to prison for contempt of court, one of the parties in a suit then pending; the contempt consisted in an abusive publication in the newspapers. The case was similar to that of Oswald already related, in these pages. Judge Brackenridge the fourth judge happened to be absent, and was not embraced in the impeachment; he however sent a letter to the assembly, that he concurred in the

<sup>1</sup> McMaster's *U. S.*, ii., 512.

<sup>2</sup> *Legislative Handbook of Pa.*, Cochran, 1889, p. 398; Hildrith's *U. S.*, v., 466; Adams' *Works*, x., 121; Scharf and Westcott, i., 513.

<sup>3</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 513-19.

course taken by the other judges.<sup>1</sup> For this, the legislature sent an address to the Governor requesting his removal; but the request was utterly refused. The committee attempted to remonstrate with him, stating that the expression "*may* remove" in the address was equivalent to "*must* remove." Governor McKean heard them patiently; and bowing, replied, "I will have you know, gentlemen, that *May* sometimes means *Won't*."<sup>2</sup>

This was not the only instance in which the legislature attempted to interfere with the governor's prerogative, or to instruct him in his duties, neither of which would he allow; and on another occasion, a committee of the legislature fared no better than the previous had done.

The governor having vetoed what was deemed an important bill passed by the legislature, a committee of three of that body was appointed to wait upon his excellency to remonstrate with him, and to urge the reconsideration of his veto. He received them with his accustomed dignified politeness, and after they had explained their mission, apparently without noticing their communication, he deliberately took out his watch, and handing it to the chairman, said, "Pray, sir, look at my watch; she has been out of order for some time; will you please put her to rights?" "Sir," replied the chairman, with some surprise, "I am no watchmaker; I am a carpenter." The watch was then handed to the other members of the committee, both of whom declined, one being a currier, and the other a bricklayer. "Well," said the governor, "this is truly strange! Any watchmaker's apprentice can repair that watch; it is a simple piece of mechanism, and yet you can't do it! The law, gentlemen, is a science of great difficulty and endless complication; it requires a life-time to understand it. I have bestowed a quarter of a century upon it; yet *you*, who can't mend this little watch, become *lawyers all at once*, and presume to instruct me in my duty." Of course the committee vanished.<sup>3</sup>

In 1804 an act was passed to substitute referees for a jury, thinking that if trials by jury could be gotten rid of, lawyers might be dispensed with. Governor McKean vetoed this bill, and thereupon sprang up between him and the Assembly a violent quarrel, which presently reached a great height. Mc-

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<sup>1</sup> Hildrith's *U. S.*, v., 514.

<sup>2</sup> David Paul Brown, *The Forum*, where the year is given wrongly 1806; Scharf and Westcott, i., 517.

<sup>3</sup> *The Forum*, i., 344.



Kean was assailed by his old ally Duane, whose chief supporter was Michael Leib.<sup>1</sup>

A historical writer of a series of biographical articles in the *Village Record*, of West Chester, Pennsylvania (Sept. 8, 1860), with but little apparent partiality to Governor McKean, gives a sketch of his life, laying particular stress on the controversy with General Thompson, the address of December 6th, etc., and concludes as follows: "It is curious to remark that before the second term . . . he quarreled with his old friends, and threw himself into the arms of the politicians so graphically mentioned in the response above quoted, by whom he was triumphantly sustained for a third term."

SOLICITED TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES.

The early growth of the Republican or Democratic party, has already been noted in these pages. Let us recapitulate. In 1796, McKean, then chief justice, headed the presidential ticket as an elector-at-large. In Pennsylvania the party was successful; but Jefferson was not elected president. Three years after, McKean was elected governor by a large majority. His popularity vastly increased during his term of office; and this, added to his great personal and political influence, contributed in no small degree to the election of Mr. Jefferson to the presidency the succeeding year.<sup>2</sup> And during the whole of that gentleman's administration, the weight of Governor McKean's opinions and conduct was directed to upholding the principles which marked the policy of the general government.<sup>3</sup>

Then followed Governor McKean's immense majority at his re-election, which brought him forward as one of the most prominent men in his party. Being a strong candidate, he was, therefore, in the fall of 1803, urgently solicited to become a candidate for the Vice-Presidency with Mr. Jefferson at his second nomination. Alexander J. Dallas<sup>4</sup> thus addresses him on this subject, under date of October 14th, 1803:

<sup>1</sup>Hildrith's *U. S.*, v., 514.

<sup>2</sup>Nevin, *Continental Sketches of Distinguished Pennsylvanians*; Sanderson's *Lives*; Goodrich's *Lives*, etc.

<sup>3</sup>Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>4</sup>Without an especial mention of this gentleman, the warm personal and political friend of Governor McKean, this biography would be incomplete. Alexander James Dallas was born in the island of Jamaica in 1759, of a Scottish family. He removed to Philadelphia, was admitted to the bar, and took a high stand in his profession; published the laws of Pennsylvania,

"I have been requested by several of our friends, to bear with me (to Washington,) your sentiments as to the office of vice-president. Your name has been most honorably mentioned on the occasion. Pray write me, in perfect confidence, and address your letter to the care of Mr. Gallatin, at Washington. Accustomed as I have been for many years, to wish every thing that can promote your happiness or reputation, it would give me pain to find, that in this instance, your disposition should lead you to the federal scene: as I do not believe there exists another man in Pennsylvania, to whom, at this period, the real interests of the state can be safely confided. But your choice will entirely govern my opinions and expressions."

Governor McKean declined this honor both on public and private considerations. Had he accepted, he would assuredly have been elected, as George Clinton of New York was then nominated, and chosen with Mr. Jefferson at his second election in 1804.

About this time it was reported that Governor McKean "has been appointed minister plenipotentiary to the court of Madrid, to adjust existing difficulties relative to the possessions of Louisiana." Whether he was offered the position, or whether it was a mere rumor, cannot now be ascertained.<sup>2</sup>

### THIRD ELECTION AS GOVERNOR—VIRULENT PARTY FEELING— IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS.

In the fall of 1805, as the time for election approached, Duane, Leib, and other political enemies of McKean organized in secret;<sup>3</sup> and founded societies throughout the state to prevent his nomination. They issued an address to the public, setting forth McKean's "austerity, and aristocratic habits," his "years of professional contention and dominion in courts;" his "ungracious distribution of offices among relatives," and

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and was subsequently reporter of the Supreme Court of the United States. He was Secretary of State of Pennsylvania for several terms, both before and during Governor McKean's administration. He was also U. S. District Attorney, and in 1814 was appointed Secretary of the Treasury. He proved to be an able and energetic officer during trying financial times following the war of 1812. Besides being a law writer, he was also an author of various works. He died in 1817, leaving two sons who became prominent, Commodore A. J. Dallas, U. S. Navy; and the Hon. George M. Dallas, Vice-President of the United States 1845-9; and a daughter, who was the wife of Judge William Wilkins, Senator and Secretary of War.—*Appleton*.

<sup>1</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> *Balt. Gazette and Daily Adv.*, Nov. 3, 1803.

<sup>3</sup> Mark the contrast: we read above that McKean's acts are done openly.

his present intimacy "with those who had been his former libelers." The federalists, knowing it to be impossible to elect one of their own party, and hoping to break McKean's majority, nominated a *democrat*; but McKean's popularity was too great for defeat, and he was successfully elected over Simon Snyder, by a large majority—nearly 5000 votes.<sup>1</sup> The senate and house were strongly for McKean.

The Governor thus vindicated, began separate lawsuits against John Steele, William Dickson, Matthew Lawler, Thomas Leiper, Dr. Leib, Jacob Mitchell, and William Duane, publisher of the *Aurora*, for various publications and utterances.<sup>2</sup>

In July, 1806, the Governor appointed Dr. George Buchanan, of Baltimore, his son-in-law, lazaretto physician. Dr. Buchanan had for seventeen years been a citizen and resident of Baltimore, not arriving in Pennsylvania until just before the appointment was made. This appointment created some stir; and the *Aurora*, under the title of "*The Royal Family*," gave the following list of persons connected by blood or marriage with the family of the Governor, who held office in the State:

Thomas McKean, Governor.

Joseph B. McKean, son, Attorney-General.

Thomas McKean, Jr., son, Private Secretary.

Thomas McKean Thompson, nephew, Secretary of Commonwealth.

Andrew Pettit, son-in-law, Flour Inspector.

Andrew Bayard, brother-in-law to Pettit, Auctioneer.

Dr. George Buchanan, son-in-law, Lazaretto Physician.

William McKennan, brother in-law of T. McKean Thompson, Prothonotary of Washington county.

Andrew Henderson, cousin to the Governor, Prothonotary of Huntingdon county.

William Henderson, cousin to the Governor, Brigade Inspector of Huntingdon county.

John Husted, father-in-law of T. McKean Thompson, clerk in the Comptroller General's office.

Joseph Reed, a near relative to Pettit and Bayard, Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.

[The term "connected by blood or marriage," is considerably stretched to make up the above list. Besides the Governor, only three are *near* relations and two connections.]

<sup>1</sup>*Leg. Handbook of Pa.*, Cochran, 1889, p. 398; Scharf and Westcott, i., 519. See also Randall's *Thomas Jefferson*, iii., 135; Hildrith's *United States*, v. 556.

<sup>2</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 520.

Even before the list was published, the *Aurora* was being sued by the Governor on three libel cases, and by the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, another son-in-law, on three more charges. Before the close of July, Duane was the defendant in sixty or seventy libel suits; and kept the staid old city in a turmoil, wondering what he would publish next.<sup>1</sup>

Governor McKean continued to make many removals from office, and his appointment of William Tilghman, a federalist, as already related on a previous page, gave offense to many of his own party. In April he added to the quarrel by attending a dinner of the St. George's Society, where the health of the king was drunk. About this time (November), the grand jury of the mayor's court indicted Duane for publishing a toast given at a celebration, "General Arnold and Governor McKean, both beans of one kidney."

In the beginning of 1807, politics continued to agitate the state with undiminished activity. The virulence of the opposition to General McKean took every conceivable shape. Representatives Leib and Engle desired a committee to investigate his conduct, but the motion was lost. On the 19th of March, Governor McKean, through Joseph B. McKean, Attorney-General, tried to have Michael Leib and William Duane arrested for conspiracy, but the Supreme Court refused the warrant. In May, Thomas McKean, Jr., who the previous autumn had challenged Dr. Leib, was arrested, and in October the grand jury found indictments against both McKean and his second, Major Dennis.<sup>2</sup>

Dr. Michael Leib, mentioned above, had been a member of Congress, but resigned his seat there, especially to put himself at the head of his party in the Pennsylvania Assembly, and oppose Governor McKean.<sup>3</sup>

It is probable that no public man in this country, excepting Washington, so deeply involved in public affairs as Governor McKean, has ever kept himself free from some portion of political intemperance, some manifestation of party passion and prejudice. On the other hand, personal feelings of hope or disappointment, doubtless created for Governor McKean many enemies. Yet during the whole constitutional period of nine years, the majority of the people were with him; and at the present day, when the party asperities and bickerings of

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid., i., 526.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., i., 527-9.

<sup>3</sup> Hildrith's *United States*, v., 666.

the times are in some measure forgotten, it cannot be denied that his administration was marked by uncommon ability, and with great benefit to the State.<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless, party asperities rose to such a height, that early in this year 1807, the federalists, led on by a few radicals, made an unsuccessful attempt to impeach Governor McKean. The charges were however chiefly allegations of political offenses;<sup>2</sup> and their frivolity and weakness may be seen by a perusal of them in the report of the committee to whom the matter was referred.

The proceedings commenced on the 30th of January, 1807, by Dr. Michael Leib, offering a resolution that a committee be appointed to inquire whether the official conduct of the Governor be such as to require the interposition of the House. This resolution, slightly modified, was adopted March 3d. In furtherance of this scheme, various petitions from citizens politically opposed to Governor McKean, were about this time presented to the house, and on the 2d of March the matter was referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Leib, Messrs. Lowry, Kerr, Lacock and Shewell. Mr. Huston was subsequently appointed in place of Mr. Lowry, who had received leave of absence. On Monday, the 30th of March, the committee submitted a report, containing the following charges, with specifications to each:

“I. That the governor did premeditatedly, wantonly, unjustly, and contrary to the true intent and meaning of the constitution, render void the late election, (in 1806,) of a sheriff in the county of Philadelphia.

“II. That he usurped a judicial authority, in issuing a warrant for the arrest and imprisonment of Joseph Cabrera; and interfered in favor of a convict for forgery, in defiance of the law, and contrary to the wholesome regulations of the prison in Philadelphia, and the safety of the citizens.

“III. That, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the constitution, and in violation of it, did he appoint Dr. George Buchanan, lazaretto physician of the port of Philadelphia.

“IV. That, under a precedent, acknowledged to have been derived from the king of Great Britain, and contrary to the express letter of the constitution, did he suffer his name to be stamped upon blank patents, warrants on the treasury, and other public official papers, and that too out of his presence.

“V. That, contrary to law, did he supersede Dr. James Reynolds, as a member of the board of health.”

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<sup>1</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*. Written about 1820.

<sup>2</sup> Armor's *Lives Govs. Penn.*

"VI. That, contrary to the obligation of duty, and the injunctions of the constitution, did he offer and authorize overtures to be made to discontinue two actions of the commonwealth against William Duane and his surety, for an alleged forfeiture of two recognizances of one thousand dollars each, on condition that William Duane would discontinue civil action against his son, Joseph B. McKean, and others, for a murderous assault committed by Joseph B. McKean and others on William Duane."

Accompanying the report was a resolution that Governor McKean be impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors. The report is partly quoted in Sanderson's *Lives*, in order to show its strong partisan character. It states that "the rights of the people of the city and county of Philadelphia have been grossly trifled with" by the Governor in rendering void the election for sheriff; that Dr. George Buchanan was appointed lazaretto physician while he was a resident of Baltimore; but for want of space we must forego further quotations.

On the report of the committee, the second reading was postponed until Thursday; nothing however appears in the journal on that day, but on Tuesday April 7, the motion for a second reading was debated, as also on the 8th and 9th, but could not be carried, and on the latter day the subject was postponed for the early consideration of the next house.<sup>1</sup>

In the fall of the year, says Scharf and Westcott, "the stubborn and aristocratic old Governor McKean, as soon as the legislature assembled, was greatly assailed by his enemies."<sup>2</sup> The impeachment resolution of the last house came up as unfinished business, December 7, six days after the legislature met. The next day Mr. John Sergeant seconded by Mr. Biddle (both members from Philadelphia,) moved to postpone the further consideration thereof until the second Monday in January, 1808; lost by a vote of 42 to 42. Mr. Lacock, seconded by Mr. Jennings, then moved to refer the matter to a select committee, which was lost by the same vote. On Friday, January 15th, 1808, Mr. Shewell seconded by Mr. Hulme, moved to consider the matter, but the motion was lost by a vote of 43 to 43. On Wednesday the 27th of January, Mr. Shewell seconded by Mr. Tarr, renewed his motion to consider the resolution, which then prevailed by a vote of 44 to 41. It should be observed that these motions proceeded from the party friendly to Governor McKean, who were anxious to determine the validity of the charges.

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<sup>1</sup>*Journals of the 17th H. R. of Penn.*, Lancaster, 1806.

<sup>2</sup>i., 532-3.

The resolution was now fairly before the house, and on motion of Mr. Porter, seconded by Mr. Shewell, the further consideration of the subject was indefinitely postponed by a vote of 44 to 41; which finally disposed of the whole matter.<sup>1</sup>

It may be added that every member from the city of Philadelphia, whose rights were said to be particularly infringed, voted for the governor, namely: Messrs. Sergeant, Clawges, Sr., Hare and Cope (subsequently elected in place of Samuel Carver, deceased before taking his seat).

On the next day, the 28th, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Thomas McKean Thompson, appeared before the house, and presented a replication from the Governor, dated Lancaster, January 28, 1808, in relation to the charges against him. Mr. Sergeant, seconded by Mr. Ingham, moved that the message be inserted at large upon the journal; whereupon a spirited debate arose, but the motion finally prevailed by a vote of 43 to 42. Mr. Leib then moved that the report of the committee, with all the accompanying papers, be also inserted in the Journal, which was agreed to by a vote of 78 to 7.<sup>2</sup>

The papers upon both sides, here entered upon the Journal, are very voluminous. The testimony before the committee is given in full: Thomas McKean Thompson, Secretary of the Commonwealth, testified that the order making void the election of sheriff was not signed by the Governor, but was stamped in his presence; he was then unable to hold a pen in his hand; that he had been confined to his bed for five weeks, that he was at times in great pain, and unable to sit up in bed or to use his hands; but his mind was sound. That his name was stamped on public papers in his presence, but never out of it.

Dr. George Buchanan testified that he was a resident of Maryland until he arrived in Pennsylvania; and received his

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<sup>1</sup> The following voted *aye* in favor of Governor McKean: George Acker, Paul Appel, William Barnet, Nathaniel Beach, Samuel Bethel, William S. Biddle, Valentine Brobst, John Clawges, Sr., Thomas P. Cope, Isaac Darlington, Jacob Eichelberger, Josiah Espy, George Evans, Robert Gemmill, James Gettys, Jacob Gisch (Gish), Charles W. Hare, John Hulme, Samuel D. Ingham (afterwards Secretary of Treasury under Pres. Jackson), Daniel Ioder (Joder), James Kelton, Bernard Kepner, Jacob Kimmell, John Loringier, Benj. Martin, Robert Maxwell, John McClellan, James McComb, James McSherry, Charles Miner, William Pennock, Charles Porter, William Ramsey, Abraham Rinker, Daniel Rose, George Savitz, John Sergeant, Jacob Shaeffer, Conrad Sherman, Nathaniel Shewell, Charles Smith (Lancaster Co.), William Trimble, William Worthington, John Wright—44.

<sup>2</sup> *Journals 18th H. R. Penn.*, Lancaster, 1807. See also Sanderson's *Lives*.

commission as Lazaretto Physician the day after he arrived ; that he was a candidate for Congress from Maryland in 1803-4.

The Governor's physicians testified that they were first called to attend the Governor January 20th, that he had some fever, and a gouty affection, but no delirium.<sup>1</sup>

The Replication of the Governor commences as follows :

"A long and dangerous illness, the sympathy of friends, and the advice of physicians, deprived me of an opportunity to peruse the journal, or to have the least knowledge of the proceedings in relation to an impeachment of my official conduct, for more than a month after the termination of the last session of the General Assembly. And since that period, a proper respect for the exercise of constitutional powers has restrained every disposition on my part, to answer the charges which have been exhibited against me, while those charges continued a subject of deliberation. But the delicacy which has recognized your constitutional jurisdiction, must not be allowed to absorb every consideration that is due to my own fame, to the feelings of my family, and to the opinion of the world.

"The accusation, though not confirmed by the ultimate vote of the house, has been deliberately framed, has been openly discussed, and will pass among the legislative records, into the hands of our constituents, and our posterity, with all its concomitant semblance of proof, and asperity of animadversion. The decision that expresses your renunciation of the impeachment, affects me indeed, with its justice and its independence ; but it is a decision which precludes the employment of the regular means of defence before a proper tribunal ; and therefore compels me, for the purpose of vindication, to claim a page in the same volume, that serves to perpetuate against me, the imputation of official crimes and misdemeanors.

"It is incompatible, gentlemen, with my view of the solemnity of the occasion, to descend to the language of invective or complaint. By exposing the depravity of other men, I should do little to demonstrate my own innocence ; and an expression of sensibility at any personal indignity that has been inflicted, might be construed into an encroachment upon the freedom of legislative debate. But the tenor of my public and private life, will I hope be sufficient to repel every vague and declamatory aspersion. The discernment of our constituents will readily detect any latent motive of hatred and malice. The justice of the Legislature upholds an ample shield against the spirit of persecution ; and the conscious rectitude of my own mind will yield a lasting consolation, amidst all the vicissitudes of popular favor and applause.\* \*

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<sup>1</sup>*Journals, etc.*



"That I may have erred in judgment, that I may have been mistaken in my general views of public policy, and that I may have been deceived by the objects of executive confidence, or benevolence, I am not so vain nor so credulous as to deny; though in the present instance, I am still without the proof and without the belief: but the firm and fearless position which I take, invites the strictest scrutiny, upon a fair exposition of our constitution and laws, into the sincerity and truth of the general answer given to my accusers, *that no act of my public life was ever done from a corrupt motive; nor without a deliberate opinion that the act was lawful and proper in itself.*"<sup>1</sup>

Governor McKean then proceeds in a circumstantial and irrefutable manner, separately to repel the charges of the committee; and triumphantly to vindicate his character in every particular, from the aspersions with which it had been assailed.

His refutation of the charges is briefly as follows:

I. The election for sheriff was made void under the act of the Assembly of February 15, 1790, "That the Governor shall be a competent judge of the election of every person who shall be returned to serve as sheriff or coroner; and for that purpose may send for papers, persons or records." The investigation was intrusted to a committee of seven persons, of whom Joseph Reed was chairman. The committee examined witnesses and reported a list of "96 bad votes" cast, which they threw out for various reasons;—illegal voting, not of age, not naturalized, voted in the wrong precinct, etc. If this number should be deducted from Wolbert who had 3905 votes, then Lawler who had 3846 would have been elected. It could not be ascertained for whom the votes were cast. Hence the doubt who was elected, and the Governor issued a proclamation to this effect, declaring the election void, and that the present sheriff holds over until the next election.

Wolbert, accompanied by General Barker, called upon the Governor to obtain his commission. The Governor refused to see them; and states in his replication, as follows: "It has also been developed upon the oath of General Barker, that an attempt was then to be made to obtain a commission for Mr. Wolbert, by offers of favor, or menaces of vengeance; by giving the Governor the option of 'the sword or the olive branch;' and by a denunciation, (which General Barker swears came from the tongue of Dr. Michael Leib the chair-

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<sup>1</sup> As quoted in Sanderson's *Lives*.

man of the committee of impeachment, and similar menaces of assassination were contained in anonymous letters received through the post-office,) 'that if the old scoundrel, or old rascal, did not accede to the proposal, he would pursue him to the grave.'"

II. Joseph Cabrera was imprisoned upon the request of the Spanish Minister. The minister has a right to imprison a member of the legation in his own domicile, and has power to send him home for trial. He also has an unquestionable claim upon the government to guard his prisoner; this is then regarded not as judicial, but an executive recognizance. Moreover, at the trial, Cabrera waived his diplomatic privileges. As to the second part of the charge, after his conviction, the Governor says a power to grant pardon and reprieve of the whole sentence, naturally includes the power to pardon any part of it; and this was done also at the request of the minister.

III. Dr. Buchanan's appointment. Under the constitution certain offices must be filled by residents of the county in which the office is located; but this does not apply to the office of Secretary of the Commonwealth, Secretary, Receiver General, etc., because then all the counties in the state would not have equal rights. The Lazaretto Physician is not a county officer, but an officer of the port of Philadelphia, his office being a department of the board of health, and since the office was created, there is no instance of a resident of the county in which it is located, having filled it. Dr. Buchanan is not an alien, but a citizen of the United States.

IV. The law requires the Governor to *sign*, but does not specify the kind of signature. A cross is a valid signature, and in case of the loss of both hands it is hard to imagine how a person could sign, if restricted to writing his name. He also adds, "Although the Governor did not always affix the signature to official papers with his own hand, it was never affixed without his express order."

V. Dr. Reynolds was removed for intemperance and violence; he struck a member of the board of health, which act was complained of to the Governor, who counselled a delay; but on the offense being repeated, the other members of the board resigned, whereupon the Governor at once removed Dr. Reynolds. The act of the legislature, directs that members of the board of health should hold office for one year; but this was not meant to enlarge the tenure but to limit it, for the

legislature provided for cases of death, sickness, removal, etc., which implies power of the Governor to remove.

VI. This charge is based upon overtures made by Messrs. Ingersoll, Dallas, Muhlenberg, and Dickerson, but they have expressly declared in writing, that they were unauthorized by the Governor to make overtures. The Governor states the facts of the quarrel briefly as follows: The troops of light horse was engaged in suppressing a disturbance in Berks and Northampton counties; and the *Aurora* charged that they "lived at free quarters." The officers called for a retraction, an altercation ensued, and they chastised the editor.<sup>1</sup>

Thus did Governor McKean refute the charges made against him. He had however to contend, not only against the ostensible charges, but also against the vindictiveness and malignancy of the radical members of the committee. The charge that the Governor imprisoned Cabrera, and then allowed him privileges after conviction;—that is, complaining of what the Governor did *against* him, as well as what he did *in his favor*, savors more of opposition to the Governor than solicitude for Cabrera's welfare. The animus of the mover of these proceedings, Dr. Leib, is shown in the testimony of John Barker before the committee, Dr. Leib being present:

"The Dr. [Leib] then arrested my attention by calling me general, and told me to remember, general, we offer him the sword or the olive branch, let him take his choice. I did not consider this to be secrets. I looked upon myself as a kind of ambassador. After the Dr. gave me this last instruction, he exclaimed with some warmth, That if the old scoundrel or old rascal did not accede to these proposals, he would pursue him to the grave."<sup>2</sup>

To the Sixth Charge, it is related in Hildrith's History, that Governor McKean retorted by having Leib, Duane, and others indicted for conspiracy to corrupt and overawe him.<sup>3</sup>

Governor McKean's replication comprehends a very learned and masterly disquisition; defining in a most lucid manner the powers and duties of the several branches of the government, legislative, judicial and executive; and expounding clearly impeachable offences. And upon repeated references to it, it has been found to bear the cautious scrutiny of unimpassioned judgment, and to furnish a clear, safe, and useful

<sup>1</sup>*Journals 18th H. R. Penn.*

<sup>2</sup>*Journals 18th H. R. Penn.*, 1807, p. 349.

<sup>3</sup>*Hist. U. S.* vi., 67.

guide in the elucidation of cases involving points similar to those which he professes to discuss. It is regarded with great favor by professional men, and is quoted as authority upon the questions of which it treats.<sup>1</sup>

Thus terminated a transaction, which through the baleful and exterminating spirit of party, threatened to overshadow the closing career of a patriot, whose life, during half a century, had been devoted to the public service.<sup>2</sup>

#### CLOSE OF HIS TERM OF OFFICE—RETIRES TO PRIVATE LIFE.

Governor McKean had now served as the executive of Pennsylvania for nine years, through three terms of office; his services must necessarily be brought to a close by constitutional limitation. The impeachment proceedings, the strongest card played by his enemies, having signally failed, further asperities were suspended; and in the following fall, Simon Snyder was nominated against Ross, Governor McKean's first competitor. Snyder was elected, and assumed the executive chair December 20, 1808. The same party was yet in power; and Leib and Duane, leaders of the same faction, still kept up their abuse. After the campaign closed, Duane of the *Aurora* was again pelted with lawsuits; John Binns one of this faction published an article in which he said "under McKean the legislature was bullied and abused; under Snyder it was caucussed and corrupted."<sup>3</sup> It is here gratifying to find in the writings of his enemies, that which redounds to his credit; he may have "bullied" or "abused," but he never "corrupted" the legislature. This statement and the inference to be drawn from it comes opportunely, not long after Governor McKean's statement in his Replication; that no act of his public life was ever done from a *corrupt* motive.

At the end of his term of office, Governor McKean retired to private life, having been before the public continuously, and in many of the highest offices for forty-six years. He was at the time of his retirement nearly seventy-five years of age; but his vigor was not diminished by his years.

"For nine successive years," says a contemporary,<sup>4</sup> "he

<sup>1</sup> W. H. Egle, *Hist. Penn.*, i., 235; and Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>3</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 533-45. See Duane's obituary on a subsequent page.

<sup>4</sup> L. Carroll Judson, of the Philadelphia bar, *Biog. of Signers*, 1839.

wielded the destinies of the land of Pennsylvania, commencing at a period when the mountain waves of party spirit were rolling over the United States, with a fury before unknown. But amid the foaming and conflicting elements, Governor McKean stood at the helm of state, calm as a summer morning, firm as a mountain of granite, and guided his noble ship through the raging storm, unscathed and unharmed. His annual messages to the legislature, for elegance and force of language, correct and liberal views of policy, and a luminous exposition of law and rules of government, stand unrivalled, and unsurpassed. The clamour of his political enemies, he passed by as the idle wind; the suggestions of his friends, he scanned with the most rigid scrutiny. Neither flattery nor censure could drive him from the strong citadel of his own matured judgment. The good of his country, and the glory of the American character, formed the grand basis of his actions.

"His administration was prosperous and enlightened, and when he closed his political duties, the bitterness of his political opponents was lost in the admiration of his patriotism, virtue, impartiality, consistency, and candor."

Says another writer:

Perhaps no man attracted so much homage from the crowd as Governor McKean, not only as Delegate in Congress, and Chief Justice, but especially in his old age. He was one of that old stock of Pennsylvanians, of abnormal size and strength in both mind and body. He was tall and stately—over six feet in height; and even in later years, notwithstanding his great age, an erect person. He usually wore a cocked hat, carried a gold-headed cane; and walked, even to the close of his life, though with a somewhat tottered step, with great apparent dignity and pride. As is known, he was one of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, and if we may use the phrase, which we do in all respect and kindness, he was an actual impersonification—a practical living, walking emblem, and memento, of that Declaration. Apparently the two proudest men the city ever beheld—and sure they had much to be proud of—were our present venerable subject, and his son-in-law, the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, the ambassador from Spain.<sup>1</sup>

#### FEARS OF A BRITISH INVASION—PRESIDES AT A TOWN MEETING, 1814.

During the last war with England, Philadelphia was startled by the news that a British army was on our shores. The city was wholly unprepared for any defence; and a number of the

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<sup>1</sup> David Paul Brown, *The Forum*, i., 346. See also *Harp. Mag.*, lii., 871.

most influential citizens met and at once issued a call for a town-meeting on the morning of August 26th. Washington had been captured the day before, but the fact was not known at that time. The meeting convened in the State House square. Ex-Governor McKean had been particularly desired to attend, and on his appearing once more among his countrymen on a public occasion, he was greeted with profound respect and attention; and was unanimously called to take the chair.

He was at this time eighty years of age. Joseph Reed, another patriot of the revolution, was made secretary. Never since the revolutionary period, had a public meeting been held in Philadelphia on so momentous a business; and never since the same period, had an occasion existed, which demanded more promptness and decision of action. No noisy demagogues attempted to control its operations, or to create excitement by inflammatory harangues. The venerable chairman alone addressed it, and in a few brief sentences, delivered with the dignity and emphasis of former days, touched the spirit that needed only to be awakened. His speech made a deep impression, and was recognized as coming from a patriot and a sage. The meeting, without waste of time, and without useless discussion, took the measures which the crisis demanded; and the city was in a short time placed in a condition to repel the attack of any force which the enemy could then bring against it.<sup>1</sup>

The "Committee of Defense, 1814," appointed by this meeting, consisted of the officers of the meeting, prominent movers, and a number of other citizens.<sup>2</sup>

#### HONORARY DEGREES, DIPLOMAS, HONORS, ETC.

Governor McKean received the honorary degree of A. M. from the University of Pennsylvania, in 1763; and LL. D. from the College of New Jersey, in 1781, September 26; and from Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, in 1782; and from the University of Pennsylvania, in 1785. He was a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1779, under the University Charter; and in 1791, November 18th, at the Union.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sanderson's *Lives*; see also *National Portraits*, vol. for 1839; and Scharf and Westcott, i., 571.

<sup>2</sup>The names may be found in Scharf and Westcott, *Hist.*, iii., 1769; and in John Hill Martin's *Bench and Bar of Phila.* The Minutes of the Committee of Defence were published in the Memoirs of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1867, vol. 8.

<sup>3</sup>College Catalogues, Univ. Penn. Catalogue, 1880.

Governor McKean was elected a member of the Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, May 2d, 1785.<sup>1</sup> It was instituted February 11, 1785.

October 31, 1785, he received his diploma of the Society of the Cincinnati, instituted by officers of the American Army, at the close of the Revolution.<sup>2</sup> He subsequently became Vice-President of the Pennsylvania State Society. The author has been unsuccessful in finding any lists of the Pennsylvania Society, containing Governor McKean's name. In the Department of State at Washington however, is a letter of Thomas McKean and others, dated Philadelphia, March 6, 1787, addressed to General Washington, in reply to his circular letter of October 31st, declining to be re-elected to the presidency; this letter concludes by expressing regret at General Washington's determination; and states that his request will be laid before the meeting of the state society, called for the 26th instant, and will be intimated to the delegates to the general triennial meeting; it is signed by a committee of the Society, Thomas McKean, W. Jackson, and F. Mentger.

In 1770 or earlier, Thomas McKean, of Newcastle, was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society. In 1786 or earlier, while Chief Justice, he became one of the twelve Councillors; and in 1799 as Governor he became ex-officio the Patron of the Society.<sup>3</sup>

In 1790, while Chief Justice, he was one of the founders of the Hibernian Society for the relief of emigrants from Ireland, and the first president.

In 1804, McKean county was separated from Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, and named in honor of Thomas McKean, at that time Governor.<sup>4</sup>

McKean street, in Philadelphia, is also named after him.

In 1786, was published "*The Lyric Works of Horace*" by John Parke, with an appendix containing poems by John Wilcocks, and dedicated to General Washington. The several poems being addressed to the prominent men of the day; Ode V, Book III, as also the Secular Poem, *Carmen Seculare*, are both addressed to Thomas McKean then Chief Justice, Vice President of the Cincinnati, and late President of Con-

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<sup>1</sup>Sanderson's *Lives*.

<sup>2</sup>Sanderson, *The Forum*, etc.

<sup>3</sup>*Transactions*.

<sup>4</sup>Egle's *Hist Penn.*; Day's *Histor. Collect*.

gress. An Elegy on the death of Colonel John Haselet of Delaware is addressed to Cæsar Rodney and Thomas McKean, members of Congress.

#### HIS DEATH AND FUNERAL.

At length, loaded with honors, this venerable patriot arrived at the *ultima linea rerum*, and departed to "the generation of his fathers" on the 24th of June, 1817, aged eighty-three years, two months and twenty-five days.<sup>1</sup>

In the *United States Gazette* of the following day, appeared the notice :

*"Another Patriot of '76 descended to the Tomb.*

Died yesterday, the 24th inst., Thomas McKean, Esq., formerly Governor of Pennsylvania.

"The gentlemen of the bar are requested to attend the funeral of the late *Thomas McKean, Esq.*, formerly governor of Pennsylvania, from his late mansion, south Third street to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

"The Members of the Society of the Cincinnati are requested to attend the funeral of the late *Thomas McKean, Esq.*, formerly governor of Pennsylvania, from his late mansion, south Third street to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

"The Members of the Hibernian Society are requested to attend the funeral of the late *Thomas McKean, Esq.*, formerly governor of Pennsylvania, from his late mansion, south Third street to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

"The Members of the Philosophical Society are requested to attend the funeral of the late *Thomas McKean, Esq.*, formerly governor of Pennsylvania, from his late mansion, south Third street to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

"The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania are requested to attend the funeral of the late *Thomas McKean, Esq.*, formerly governor of Pennsylvania, from his late mansion, south Third street to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock."

In this paper of Thursday the 26th, appeared a set of Resolutions of respect, passed by the Philadelphia Bar.

In *Poulsen's American Daily Advertiser* of the 25th appeared a short notice of his death "between the hours of two

<sup>1</sup> Not 16 days, as given in Sanderson's *Lives*. Every succeeding biographer has copied this mistake. Not one has thought of verifying it. The difference between the dates of birth and death gives 83 years, 3 months, 5 days; but his birth being given in *old style*, eleven days must be deducted, and (adding 31 days for May, the previous month to that of his death, to make the subtraction possible,) we have his age as given above.



and three o'clock;" followed the next day, by a long obituary and notice of his death similar to that given above.

On the 27th appeared a long editorial notice commencing as follows:

"GOVERNOR MCKEAN. The late THOMAS MCKEAN, formerly Chief Justice and afterwards Governor of Pennsylvania; of whose political conduct, however varied may be the judgment of the different Parties which divide the State, there can be but one opinion as to his regard for the public weal, in his successive nominations of eminent characters of different political sentiments, to succeed him in the judicial chair; an instance of patriotic impartiality so rare in public life that it must be allowed on all hands to reflect peculiar honor on his memory. \* \* \* \*

In the *General Advertiser* of June 25th, *The Aurora*, and still published by Governor McKean's old political opponent, William Duane, pays the following noble tribute to his memory:

"DIED—yesterday at three o'clock, Thomas McKean, LL.D. one of the earliest and most firm friends of American independence; some time a representative in the Continental Congress, of which he was also president; many years Chief Justice of this commonwealth; and closed<sup>1</sup> his long and eventful career by serving as Governor for nine years in this commonwealth. Mr. McKean was a native of this state, of an old Irish stock, and derived from his progenitors a considerable share of energy and decision of character; in the most trying times, of the revolution, he was among those who never wavered, and who spurned the royal favor offered to him, preferring to such honors, and venal rewards, the prouder honors of devotion to his country and liberty. It is to his name due, that it should be remembered, that although of an energy not to be resisted in a public station, that by his kindness of heart many who had mistaken the path of true honor in forsaking their country to serve a tyrant were by his private generosity rescued from public vengeance, and the inexorable law. As a judge it must be acknowledged that he gave the laws dignity by enforcing them; his rigor obtained for him many enemies; but time, which has drawn the thorn of individual resentment, will do justice to the austerity which was directed as much as human passions can admit, to equal and exact justice. In the station of governor he incurred the same censure; and it must be confessed deservedly: but the experience of the administration which succeeded his has interposed a relief, which by comparison reduces the exceptionable parts of Mr. McKean's administration to the small sins of passion or pride. He was much better adapted to the bench of justice, than the executive chair. In the former

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<sup>1</sup> So given ungrammatically.

he displayed the severity of Cethegus, and the probity of Cato; his principles were strictly republican, but he held that education should be the first care of a free people, because there is no danger so much to be apprehended as ignorance. If he did not always direct his energy against ignorance, in the proper time and manner, it was the effect, rather of constitutional warmth than any worse passion, as no man more sincerely deplored such aberrations than himself. He was in short a man devoted to whatever he conceived to be just—a most faithful citizen, and earnest friend of his country, and its liberty, and independence.”

In the *Gentleman's Magazine*, London 1817, appears a short notice of Governor McKean's death.

His remains were interred in the burial ground of the First Presbyterian Church in Market street, Philadelphia; the only record among the church archives being in the book of interments kept by an illiterate sexton: “1817, June 26, thomas McKean.”

Subsequently the remains were removed to the family vault of his grandson, Henry Pratt McKean, Esq., in Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia, over which, on a large plain altar tomb,<sup>1</sup> is the following inscription:

#### McKEAN FAMILY VAULT.

Beneath  
this marble  
are  
the remains  
of THOMAS McKEAN,  
one of the Signers  
of the  
Declaration of Independence,  
President of Congress in 1781,  
Chief Justice  
and  
Governor  
of the  
State of Pennsylvania,  
Born, March 19, 1734,  
died, June 24, 1817.  
And the DESCENDANTS of his  
FAMILY,

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<sup>1</sup> Mentioned in *The Official Guide Book of Phila.*, Thompson Westcott, 1875.

## HIS LIFE AND CHARACTER.

The reader who has perused this biography will, I doubt not, have already formed his own estimate of Thomas McKean's character. In the many extracts already given, from the writings of judges, lawyers and historians,—his contemporaries and others,—his friends and opponents, there is no conflict of opinion upon this subject; and the general impression left on the mind of the reader, will convey a far more accurate estimate of Thomas McKean's character, than any brief summation in a single paragraph.

The great age attained by many of the Signers of the Declaration, and the exceedingly high average of their lives collectively, has been noted by historians;<sup>1</sup> four lived to be over 90, and eight others between 80 and 90. Of McKean, one of his biographers remarks that "For a man of so varied and such great labors, his length of life was remarkable, and illustrates the maxim, that sloth, like rust consumes faster than labor wears."<sup>2</sup>

At the close of Governor McKean's life there were living besides himself, five signers; these last survivors of that immortal group of patriots were as follows:<sup>3</sup>

Thomas McKean, born 1734, died 1817, aged 83 years 3 mo.				
William Ellery,	1727	1820	92	2
William Floyd,	1734	1821	86	8
John Adams,	1735	1826	90	9
Thomas Jefferson,	1743	1826	83	2
Charles Carroll,	1737	1832	95	2

During his latter years Thomas McKean kept up a correspondence with Jefferson, Adams, and other revolutionary patriots. On hearing of his death, Mr. Adams immediately addressed the following letter, dated Quincy, June 30, 1817, to the editor of *Niles' Register*, as a tribute to his deceased friend:

"MR. NILES. The oldest statesman in North America is no more. Vixit. McKean, for whose services, and indeed for whose patronage the two states of Pennsylvania and Delaware once contended, is numbered with the fathers. I cannot express my feelings upon this event in any way, better, than by the publication

<sup>1</sup> *Goodrich*, preface.

<sup>2</sup> *Armor*.

<sup>3</sup> *Lanman*, *Biog. Annals*.

of the enclosed letters. [Here follow the dates of eight letters, the latest being June 17, 1817.] I pray you to print these letters in your Register. JOHN ADAMS."

This letter and the enclosures, were accordingly published as requested on the 12th of July, (vol. xii, p. 305, *et seq.*).

Mr. Adams on the 30th of December following, in a letter to John M. Jackson, speaks in the following high terms of Governor McKean:

"In 1774, I became acquainted with McKean, Rodney and Henry. [Patrick Henry.] Those three appeared to me to see more clearly to the end of the business than any others of the whole body. At least they were more candid and explicate with me than any others. Mr. Henry was in Congress in 1774, and a small part of 1775. He was called home by his state to take a military command. McKean and Rodney continued members, and, I believe I never voted in opposition to them in any one instance."<sup>1</sup>

It will undoubtedly have been noticed in this biography, that Thomas McKean was an eminently successful man in life, and essentially a leader among men. Moreover he had the true training of a leader,—that of beginning in a lower station and ascending. So marked is this, that when the colonies were arming themselves in 1775, Mr. McKean, although filling the exalted station of a delegate in congress, hesitated not to enroll himself in the army as a *private*. As a lawyer he soon took a leading stand in his profession; as a member of the Assembly he rose to be Speaker; in congress he became President; as a judge he rose from the lower courts to the highest judicial office, that of Chief Justice; in the army from being a private, he became colonel, his province however lay not in military, but in civil life. As Governor, he filled the highest office in the state. In numerous committees, conventions and public meetings, he either directed their proceedings as chairman, or else was a leading spirit on the floor. In no case do we find him receding; even during the stormy days while in the gubernatorial chair of Pennsylvania; and in no case do we find him stationary in any line until he has reached the highest rank therein.

I cannot better close this biography, than with the concluding paragraph in Sanderson's Lives:

Thomas McKean outlived all the enmities<sup>2</sup> which an active

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<sup>1</sup> *Works*, x., 269.

<sup>2</sup> After a perusal of everything that I can find, in print, regarding Thomas

and conspicuous part in public affairs, had in the nature of things, created; and posterity will continue to cherish his memory, as one among the most useful, able, and virtuous fathers of a mighty republic.

*Conscia mens recti, famæ mendacia ridet.*

#### HIS WILL AND SEAL THERETO.

Thomas McKean's will is a holograph will, made, as he himself says, when he has passed his eightieth year. It covers seven pages of large sized unruled paper, and is dated very appropriately August 13, 1814, "and of the independence of the United States of America, the thirty-ninth." He firsts directs "that my funeral may be decent but not expensive." To his wife, he leaves the choice of his household furniture to the value of \$1000; and \$600 per annum, and also a house in Holmesburgh. Forty thousand dollars advanced to his children is remitted and released to them.

To Joseph B. McKean, his mansion house in Philadelphia, the pictures in the hall of the house, gold-headed cane, "my steel-seal ring with my coat of Arms cut thereon," Family bible, Notes of cases, and all his manuscripts.

To Mary McKean only child of his son Robert, deceased, a house in Holmesburgh.

To Andrew Pettit for the four sons and four daughters of his deceased daughter Elizabeth, 11 tracts of land on Brush creek Beaver co., 2200 acres, and also some rent charges.

To Lætitia Buchanan, land on the Ohio river Beaver co. near Logstown, six tracts, 1580 acres; also a plantation called Pottersfield in the new county of Centre, 407 acres worth \$40 per acre.

To the four children of Anne Buchanan, (to Joseph B. McKean in trust,) tracts of land on the N. W. of the Ohio river, 1116 acres; and a tract of 404 acres in Haines's township, Luzerne co. and some rent charges.

To his daughter Sarah Maria Theresa, Marchioness de Casa Yrujo, 8 tracts on the Sewickly creek, Allegheny co., 2266 acres 52 perches.

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McKean, (and the references here given will show that this search has not been limited,) I am happy to testify that this statement is *true*. William Duane, his most violent opponent, pays him a generous tribute in his obituary; and among recent writers, I have found but two who have written against him, namely, William T. Read, in 1870: and a historical writer in the Village Record of West Chester, Pa., 1860, both quoted in these pages.

To Thomas McKean, plantation called Chatham, 392 acres in London Grove township, Chester co. and 6 acres of chestnut wood six miles distant, also "my silver-hilted small sword, my stock, knee and shoe buckles," and his folio hot press bible.

To his daughter Sophia Dorothea, 4 tracts in Centre co., 1684 acres 32 perches; two lots on Spruce street between Sixth and Seventh streets.

To his grandson Samuel M. McKean, plantation in Mt. Equity 300 acres, in McKean co.

His executors may sell 5 acres on Logan street Phila. co.; and about 440 acres, and a tract of 150 acres in Newcastle, Del.

"All the rest of my estate, real and personal, I give devise, and bequeathe to my grandchildren Thomas McKean Pettit, McKean Buchanan, Thomas McKean Buchanan, Charles Ferdinand de Yrujo, and Henry Pratt McKean, and their heirs and assigns forever, as tenants in common."

Joseph B. McKean, Andrew Pettit, and Thomas McKean are named as executors.

Witnessed by Jared Ingersoll and Jos: Reed; Proved June 27, 1817, and recorded in Philadelphia, No. 90, lib. 6, fol. 467.

The will is sealed with red sealing-wax, about the size of a quarter of a dollar, now somewhat broken on one side; but enough remains to show the impression of a coat of arms, substantially the same as those on David Edwin's engraving of Stuart's painting.

#### COAT OF ARMS.

There is no coat of arms in this family that I believe to be genuine. The arms under David Edwin's engraving, and the same as used by Governor McKean on the seal of his will, are as follows: -

*ARMS: Or, four pallets gules, debriused by a bend sinister azure, charged with a crescent decrescent argent, between two mullets of six points, of the same.*

*CREST: An eagle crested, with wings displayed, perched upon a snake, with head erected.*

*MOTTO: Mens sana in corpore sano.*

In a copy of *McKean's Laws* at the Library of the Supreme Court of the United States, there is a book plate of these arms, (the only book plate of them I have seen or heard

of,) with the tinctures clearly shown; and identical with the above, save that the divisions of the shield are *paly of eight*, instead of nine. Below the arms on a drapery is the name McKean, in script letters, and below that the engraver's name, *M. de Bruls*.

These arms, I believe to be spurious; but when or by whom first assumed I know not. My chief reasons are as follows: 1st. No McKean family in England carries such arms; of the three families named in *Burke's General Armory*, two carry a saltire, and the other three trefoils. 2d. No one would voluntarily carry the bend sinister. 3d. There is too great a similarity to the "stars and stripes" in the shield,—to the American eagle in the crest,—and the motto is a household word. 4. Judge Thomas McKean Pettit, with a patriotic notion discarded his proper crest, and substituted therefore an eagle almost identical to that in the above arms, save that in these, the eagle is *crested*, and in the Pettit, *not crested, regardant*. And what is more likely than this having been done by Judge Pettit, in imitation of his grandsire?

In some branches of the family, these arms are well known, through David Edwin's engraving, and from colored drawings; but none of Judge Joseph B. McKean's descendants know anything of the "steel seal ring" willed by Governor McKean to his eldest son, and from which I had hoped to gain some information about these arms.

Our relative Henry Pettit Esq., of Philadelphia, who is interested in family history, and has made some researches as to a coat of arms, writes under date of February 26, 1886: "If the McKean family ever had any crest or arms, I should like greatly to see it, never having come across it as yet." In reply I mentioned these spurious arms; and not long after received a letter dated June 17, 1886, containing the following interesting extract:

"In a previous letter you wrote with regard to the often asked for McKean arms. I think myself, that there really are none. I have never seen the so-called arms you refer to, but if ever you come across anything engraved or photoed, or representing the so-called McKean arms, I should like, from curiosity to see it. One reason is this,—About the beginning of this century there seems to have been quite a craze, to get up in some families, an *American modification* of the English Arms the families had previously worn; and the result was remarkable, from a herald's point of view in many cases. I had myself a book plate of the Pettit arms so changed, with eagle for crest, and helmet, vizor up

full faced, which had been *purposely changed* by Judge Thomas McKean Pettit, from his grandfather Charles Pettit's arms, in order to *Americanize it*, and get rid purposely of all the English except the arms proper; and by the eagle show the American branch. I showed these arms as a joke at the College of Arms, London, and I thought the Herald would have split with laughter. Nevertheless it showed the *American independent spirit rampant* at that period. Now I am disposed to think that a McKean plate, arms, crest, and motto, all complete, was devised by some patriotic McKeanite, say about that same time, eagle as usual, and all other American features."

PORTRAITS, HISTORICAL PAINTINGS AND ENGRAVINGS OF  
GOVERNOR McKEAN.

1. AN OIL PORTRAIT BY GILBERT STUART, and considered one of his masterpieces, on a panel formerly in possession of the eldest son, Joseph B. McKean, now in possession of the latter's grandson Samuel M. McKean. It is a half length, showing the left side, and the badge of the Cincinnati on the left breast, the head turned nearly full face. In the *Life and Works of Gilbert Stuart* by George C. Mason, N. Y., 1879, this picture is catalogued with the encomium, "An upright Chief Justice, an enlightened lawyer, a sagacious politician, he was looked up to as one of the most reliable men of the day." *By this portrait Governor McKean is best known to posterity, several engravings having been made from it.*

2. OIL PORTRAIT; Copy of the previous, by Marchant, owned by the Law Association of Philadelphia; and which has been loaned to the Supreme Court since 1875; it hangs in the place of honor behind the Judge's Bench on the right side.<sup>1</sup>

3. OIL PORTRAIT; Copy of Stuart (No. 1,) by James R. Lambdin, and presented by him to the Pennsylvania Historical Society, Philadelphia, November 17, 1852. Numbered 141, on the Society's Catalogue of Paintings.

4. IN THE OLD STATE HOUSE, *Independence Hall*, oil portrait by Peale. The *right* side of the face is shown.<sup>2</sup>

5. SIGNING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, by Trumbull. The original, 30x20 inches, is in the Trumbull Gallery of Yale College. A copy made by the same artist, painted by

<sup>1</sup> See John Hill Martin, *Bench and Bar*, p. 222.

<sup>2</sup> See *Catalogue of Ind. Hall* for use of visitors, portrait numbered 11; also Belisle's *Hist. Ind. Hall*, 1859; and F. M. Etting, *Histor. Acct. of Old State Ho.*, 1876.



order of Congress, is one of the eight large historical paintings in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington. Thomas McKean is one of the delegates here represented, and numbered 46. Not all the members of Congress are however included. The picture is well-known by engravings.<sup>1</sup>

6. WASHINGTON RESIGNING HIS COMMISSION, by Edwin White 1859, a large historical painting in the State House, Annapolis, Md. Thomas McKean is here represented among the delegates, and numbered 18 in the key engraving. As a matter of fact however the resignation took place December 23, 1783, and Mr. McKean's term had expired some months before;—an anachronism, undoubtedly due to Mr. McKean's prominence and long service in Congress. Thomas Mifflin, president of Congress, Charles Carroll, Thomas Jefferson, and Edward Lloyd are also among the delegates shown. This is quite a different picture from that of Trumbull, representing the same scene, and which is another of the eight large paintings in the rotunda of the national Capitol.

7. LADY WASHINGTON'S RECEPTION DAY; by Daniel Huntington of New York. Thomas McKean is numbered 35, and is described in the key engraving as Chief Justice of Pennsylvania. There are sixty-four likenesses in all. The artist very kindly informs me that the picture is 6x9 feet; and that it was painted in 1859-60, for A. H. Ritchie, the well-known engraver; who paid \$2500 for it, and who made the steel engraving by which it is well known. This picture was recently in the collection of A. T. Stewart of New York, and was purchased at the sale of his pictures by the Hamilton Club of Brooklyn, for \$3300. The likeness of Thomas McKean was painted from the engraving of Welch after Stuart.<sup>2</sup>

8. THE FIRST PRAYER IN CONGRESS; September 1774. Painted by T. H. Matterson for the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia, to commemorate the meeting of the first Congress in Carpenter's Hall. This picture is also well known from the engraving on steel by H. S. Sadd "From the original picture, painted expressly for this engraving," 1848. Thirty-three persons are represented. General Washington, No. 9, kneels in the foreground; Thomas McKean, No. 21, also kneels; in the background stands Stephen Hopkins, No. 18, the Quaker from Rhode Island, with his hat on.

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<sup>1</sup> See a paper by Lyman C. Draper; *Collections, State Hist. Soc. of Wis.*, vol. x.

<sup>2</sup> Letter of the Artist, June 19, 1888.

9. OIL PORTRAIT BY STUART, in possession of His Excellency the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, Madrid, Spain.

10. OIL PORTRAIT, Copy of Stuart's (No. 1) by McMurtrie of Philadelphia, made for Samuel M. McKean of Washington, and now in possession of his daughters.

11. OIL PORTRAIT BY CHARLES WILSON PEALE, in possession of Henry Pratt McKean Esq. of Philadelphia, a large painting with the Governor's son Thomas, at the age of about ten years, standing by his side.

12. OIL PORTRAIT BY CHARLES WILSON PEALE, presented to his daughter Elizabeth, on her marriage with Andrew Pettit, now in possession of Mrs. Sarah P. Wilson of Philadelphia.

13. OIL PORTRAIT; Artist unknown, on a panel, (It resembles Stuart's No. 1, and may be a copy; the badge of the Cincinnati being shown). Formerly in possession of the Governor's daughter Lætitia Buchanan, and at her death passed to her son the late Admiral Franklin Buchanan. Now at his late residence, "The Rest," Talbot Co., Maryland.

There may be other portraits or copies that I have not heard of.

*Engravings; on steel or copper.*

i. ENGRAVING by David Edwin, entitled "Thomas McKean, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Vice President of the State Society of Cincinnati, etc." "Engraved by David Edwin, from the original Picture by Gilbert Stuart in the Possession of J. B. McKean Esq." It is about one-fourth of life size. I only know of five of these engravings, which are usually framed; doubtless there are many more. 1. In the author's possession. 2. Mrs. Admiral Buchanan, "The Rest," Maryland; 3. The Misses Coale, Baltimore; 4. Family of the late Samuel M. McKean of Washington; 5. In the compiled Biography of the Signers in the Pennsylvania Historical Society library, three 4<sup>o</sup> volumes valued at \$2000.

ii. ENGRAVING, "by J. B. Longacre from a Portrait by G. Stuart." This is the illustration in Sanderson's *Lives*, First and Second Editions. It is slightly less than one-half the size of the previous.

iii. ENGRAVING, "by T. B. Welch, from a painting by G. Stuart." "M. Quig printer." This illustrates the *National Portraits* by Longacre and Herring; vol. for 1839; and also the second edition, by Rice and Hart 1854.

iv. ENGRAVING, "by S. C. Atkinson," [Apparently a copy

of Stuart] which illustrates Conrad's edition of Sanderson's *Lives*, 1 vol. imp 8° 1846; and also Benner's Dutch edition, 1842-58.

v. PRINT by Tiebout, in possession of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, entitled "Thomas McKean Governor of Pennsylvania, Published by D. Kennedy 228 Market St." The likeness shows the right side of the face; and is not familiar, to those who know Stuart's and the engravings from it. In its general appearance it resembles Peale's (No. 4), but in the details it does not; the expression is different from Peale's Portrait.

vi. ETCHING of the last named, by Albert Rosenthal, Philadelphia, forming the illustration to "*Philadelphia and the Federal Constitution*."

vii. August 1781 "A profile in black lead of the pres. of Congress Thos. McKean, form of a medal," Extract from the note book of P. E. Du Simitiere in *Penn. Mag.* xiii. 367. The whereabouts of this likeness is not now known.

viii. CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE; by the American Bank Note Company, (30½ in. by 19¾ in.) This large engraving contains the Declaration, several historical scenes connected with it, etc., Thomas McKean after Stuart, being one of the few likenesses here shown.

ix. THE FRONTISPIECE of the present work is a reproduction of David Edwin's engraving (No. i.) by the Moss Engraving Company of New York, and reduced one-half size. The autograph is from Stone's *fac-simile* of the Declaration, mentioned, *ante* pp. 48, 49.

Wood cuts illustrating various works, some of them very good likenesses, and generally after Stuart, are numerous; but no list of them has been made.

#### GOVERNOR MCKEAN'S AUTOGRAPH AND LETTERS.

Thomas McKean's autograph is not a rare one compared with others of the Signers. Autograph hunters have succeeded in collecting twenty-two complete sets of autographs of the Signers; and it is not likely that any other complete set will ever be made, owing to the scarcity of one or two of the signatures.<sup>1</sup> Notices of some of these collections with fac-similes, including a sample of Governor McKean's writing, may be found in *Harper's Magazine* vol. xlvii. 258, 424, *et*

<sup>1</sup> Lyman C. Draper, in *Col. State Hist. Soc. of Wis.*, vol. x.

*seq.* The most valuable and interesting letter of Thomas McKean may be found in *fac simile* in the *Book of the Signers*, by William Brotherhead, Phila. 1861. The original, now or lately in possession of T. M. Rodney Esq., is dated Philadelphia, August 22, 1813, and refers to his name being omitted in the first published copies of the Declaration, his sending an express for Cæsar Rodney, and his writing the Constitution for the State of Delaware in one night, without the aid of books or papers.<sup>1</sup>

Comparatively few letters of Thomas McKean have been quoted in this biography; Sanderson's *Lives* contains other letters and extracts not here quoted. A number of letters to and from Thomas McKean may be found in the *Works of John Adams* by his grandson Charles Francis Adams, 10 vols. 1856. Eight letters published by John Adams may be found in *Niles' Register*, vol. xii, p. 305, *et seq.* In the *Correspondence of the Revolution*, 4 vols. Boston 1853, and in the *Diplomatic Correspondence of the Revolution*, 4 vols. Boston 1829, both by Jared Sparks, are several letters, some of them addressed to Washington. A valuable letter to William McCorkle, June 16, 1817, may be found in *Niles' Register* vol. xii, 278, and also in the *Extracts from the Diary of Christopher Marshall*, William Duane, Albany 1877; in reference to the omission of his name on the copies of the Declaration. Several letters may likewise be found in Hazard's *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 16 vols. and its continuation, the *Pennsylvania Archives*, 12 vols. by Linn and Egle, published by the state, 1852-3. Other letters are scattered among various biographies, and other works.

In the Department of State at Washington are at least ninety-eight letters of Governor McKean, but few of which have probably been published. Eighty-eight of these were written while President of Congress, and are addressed among others to Samuel Huntington, Gens. Greene, Washington, Lafayette, Stark, Heath, Lincoln, Marion, Schuyler; Govs. Hancock, Clinton, Trumbull, Nelson, Burke; Presidents Reed, Rodney, the President of New Hampshire; also to M. de Marbois, Dr. Franklin, William Bingham, The People of New Hampshire, Hon. R. R. Livingston, The Minister of France,

<sup>1</sup> This letter was read by the Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, in his address on the occasion of the unveiling of the monument to Cæsar Rodney, at Dover, Del., October 30, 1889. The author kindly sent me a printed copy of the *Proceedings* containing his address; but it was received too late to be inserted in the note on page 29.

Thomas Jefferson, Count Rochambeau, Michael Hillegas, Count de Grasse. Also six other letters to General Washington, one of which, dated Newark October 8, 1777, is quoted in these pages from *Sparks' Correspondence of the Revolution*. These letters are not generally accessible unless copies are requested.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

A list of all works I have met with, which contain a biography of Thomas McKean, is appended to this genealogy, (Appendix I). Many of them are however copies of one another. In the appendix may also be found a list of official publications closely connected with the life of Thomas McKean. Other works containing merely mention of him are too numerous to be named, but references to them may be found in the notes to the foregoing biography.

Of these biographies, a few only need special mention as being well written, or containing facts not given in the other works, namely:

1. Sanderson's *Lives* 1820-7, and subsequent editions; 2. Judson's *Biography of the Signers*, 1839, a beautifully written article; 3. *National Portraits*, an article signed T. A. B. (author unknown), well written, but containing numerous mistakes in dates. 4. Nevin's *Continental Sketches of Distinguished Pennsylvanians*, 1875. 5. Armor's *Lives of the Governors of Pennsylvania*, 1872. 6. Hazard's *Register*, iii. 241—The Supreme Court Bench of Pennsylvania; 7. Scharf and Westcott's *History of Philadelphia* 3 vols. 4°, 1884, containing also very numerous references, and facts not elsewhere published.

## CONCLUSION, GOVERNOR MCKEAN'S CHILDREN.

Governor McKean's second wife survived him but three years, and died on Saturday, May 6, 1820, aged seventy-three years; and was buried on the 7th in the grave yard of the First Presbyterian Church. An oil portrait of her by Stuart is in possession of His Excellency the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, Madrid, Spain; and another by Charles Wilson Peale, noted on a previous page, is the property of Henry Pratt McKean, Esq., of Philadelphia.

All of Governor McKean's children are named in his bible record, owned by Mr. Henry Pratt McKean; and also the first

six in another record in possession of Miss Anna M. Bayard. They are as follows:

By his first wife Mary Borden:

- |         |                |   |
|---------|----------------|---|
| 2. i.   | JOSEPH BORDEN, | b. Sunday, July 28, 1764.   |
| 3. ii.  | ROBERT,        | b. Sunday, March 9, 1766.   |
| 4. iii. | ELIZABETH,     | b. Tuesday, August 18, 1767 (Mrs. Andrew Pettit).   |
| 5. iv.  | LETITIA,       | b. Friday, January 6, 1769 (Mrs. George Buchanan).  |
| v.      | MARY,          | b. Monday, February 18, 1771; d. Thursday, December 27, 1781; buried in burial ground of First Presbyterian church. |
| 6. vi.  | ANNE,          | b. Thursday, February 25, 1773 (Mrs. Andrew Buchanan).  |

By his second wife, Sarah Armitage:

- |          |                  |   |
|----------|------------------|---|
| vii.     | <i>A Son,</i>    | b. Wednesday, November 1, 1775; d. the same day.  |
| 7. viii. | SARAH,           | b. Monday, July 8, 1777; baptized by Rev. Joseph Montgomery (The Marchioness de Casa Yrujo).  |
| 8. ix.   | THOMAS,          | b. Saturday, November 20, 1779, Philadelphia; bapt. Jan. 30, 1780. <sup>1</sup>   |
| x.       | SOPHIA DOROTHEA, | b. Monday, April 14, 1783, Philadelphia; bapt. July 27, 1783; <sup>1</sup> d. December 27, 1819; bur. First Presbyterian church.                |
| xi.      | MARIA LOUISA,    | b. Wednesday, September 28, 1785, Philadelphia; bapt. Jan. 30, 1786; <sup>1</sup> d. Tuesday, October 21, 1788; bur. First Presbyterian church. |

## SECOND GENERATION.

### CHILDREN OF GOVERNOR THOMAS McKEAN. [1.]

2. JOSEPH BORDEN McKEAN.—Born July 28, 1764. Graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1782, and subsequently received his master's degree. Studied law, and was admitted to the Philadelphia bar, September 10, 1785; and the same year to the Chester county bar. The next year he joined the First City Troop, a distinguished military organization, composed of some of the most prominent citizens in

<sup>1</sup> These baptisms are from register of First Presbyterian church, Phila.

Philadelphia. He was elected a member, April 19, 1786; and became an honorary member November 19, 1803.

In 1794, Mr. McKean became the first corporal, re-elected in 1796; and 2d lieutenant, August 15, 1803. In 1794 this troop was called out to suppress the Whiskey Insurrection in the western counties of the state. On account of this service, in 1799, Mr. McKean, with about thirty others of the troop, became involved in a quarrel with William Duane, editor of the *Aurora*, as already related; which eventually became a political issue. The suit, instituted by Duane, hung on for a long time, finally resulting in an acquittal.

On the 10th of May, 1800, Mr. McKean was appointed Attorney General of the State, succeeding Jared Ingersoll, and retained his office until January 1809. He represented his father, and acted in his behalf, in several cases arising out of the Governor's removals from office; the cases of Hopkinson, and of Alexander J. Dallas, have already been noted on a previous page. And as an outgrowth of the impeachment proceedings in 1807, Mr. McKean endeavored to have Michael Leib and William Duane indicted for conspiracy, but the Supreme Court refused the writ.

On the 26th of May, 1813, the State Fencibles were formed, among the original members of which were Joseph R. Ingersoll, Clement C. Biddle, Richard Willing, Hartman Kuhn, Joseph B. McKean, Henry C. Carey, Henry J. Biddle, and others. C. C. Biddle was elected captain.

During the visit of President Monroe in 1817, a meeting of citizens and United States officers appointed a committee to wait upon him, among whom was Mr. McKean.

In 1817, March 27, Mr. McKean was appointed an Associate Judge of the District Court of the city and county of Philadelphia. He was commissioned Presiding Judge October 1, 1818, appointed again an Associate Judge, March 17, 1821, and re-commissioned Presiding Judge March 21, 1825; which position he held at the time of his death.

Judge McKean resided at his father's house on Third street, at the corner of Pine street, which he inherited from him. In 1794 he became a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania; and in 1824, or earlier, was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phil.*, i. 497, 504, 563, 590; ii. 1539, 1572; J. Hill Martin, *Bench and Bar*; and *Hist. Chester*, Del. Co., 470; *Catalogue University Pa.*, 1880; Appleton's *Cyclop. of Biog.*, iv., 128; Watson's *Annals*,

Judge McKean was married, April 13, 1786, to Hannah Miles, at the First Baptist Church, Philadelphia.<sup>1</sup>

#### THE MILES FAMILY.

Her ancestor, Richard Miles, came from Wales to this country with William Penn on his second voyage, about 1682. He had a son James, whose wife came over at the same time. James had two sons, Colonel Samuel Miles, a gallant soldier of the Revolution, and Richard (whose granddaughter also intermarried with the McKean family, as will be seen on a subsequent page). Colonel Samuel Miles married Catharine Wister, daughter of John Wister and his second wife Catharine Rubenkam, of Wanfried, Germany, and had among other children, Hannah, born December 12, 1764, wife of Judge McKean.<sup>2</sup> Miss Sallie Wistar, whose journal was published in the *Pennsylvania Magazine* (vols. ix, x.), was a niece of Mrs. Colonel Miles, and mentions her cousin Hannah Miles. An oil painting of Colonel Miles by Stuart is in possession of the Misses McKean, of Washington.

Judge McKean died intestate in Philadelphia, September 3, 1826, and was buried in the graveyard of the First Presbyterian Church; Mrs. McKean died in Philadelphia, March 2, 1845, in her 81st year. Their children:—

- |          |                    |  |
|----------|--------------------|--|
| i.       | MARY,              | b. Phil. Feb. 20, 1787; d. Phil. May 6, 1831.<br>unm.              |
| ii.      | CATHARINE,         | b. Phil. May 25, 1788; d. in infancy, Feb. 1;<br>year not given.   |
| 9. iii.  | SAMUEL MILES,      | b. Phil. Nov. 28, 1789.  |
| iv.      | THOMAS,            | b. Phil. Oct. 25, 1791; d. July 12, 1792.                          |
| 10. v.   | JOSEPH KIRKBRIDE,  | b. Phil. Nov. 14, 1792.  |
| vi.      | ELIZABETH,         | b. Phil. March 22, 1794; d. July 9, 1861,<br>Germantown, Pa., unm. |
| vii.     | ANN,               | b. Aug. 16, 1796; d. Dec. 18, 1800.                                |
| viii.    | LETITIA,           | b. Aug. 18, 1798; d. Aug. 8, 1800.                                 |
| 11. ix.  | WILLIAM WISTER,    | b. Sept. 19, 1800.   |
| x.       | LETITIA HENRIETTA, | b. Aug. 14, 1802; d. Phil. March 16, 1863;<br>unm.                 |
| xi.      | CAROLINE,          | b. April 27, 1805, Phil.; d. Phil. March 19,<br>1833; unm.         |
| 12. xii. | ADELIN JULIA,      | b. April 22, 1809, Phil. (Mrs. Bayard.)                            |

#### 3. ROBERT McKEAN.—Born March 9, 1766, at New-

Phil., 1845, i., 322; Brown's *Forum*, ii., 90, in which most of the dates are given wrongly; Transactions, Philos. Soc.; By-Laws, 1st City Troop, 1815.

<sup>1</sup>*Pa. Archives*, 2d Ser., viii., 759.

<sup>2</sup>Letter of F. Potts Green, Esq., and *Pa. Mag.*, v., 365 *et seq.* "Second voyage, 1682," is so stated in the letter. In fact, the first voyage was in 1682 and the second in 1699.



castle, Delaware. He was a merchant in Philadelphia, and a vessel owned by him and Joseph Rogers was captured by the French in 1797, making him one of the numerous claimants under the present French Spoliation Claims. In 1794 similar aggressions of England upon American shipping caused a public meeting of merchants and traders to be held at Philadelphia in March, at which Stephen Girard was chairman, and Robert McKean Secretary. At another meeting, March 24th, a board of trustees for the "Algerine fund" was chosen, among whom were Thomas McKean, Thomas Mifflin, George Meade, Robert Mifflin, and Stephen Girard.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. McKean was a member of the First City Troop, being elected April 30, 1794. He was married in the Second Presbyterian Church by Rev. Ashbel Green, April 17, 1794, to Miss Ann Smith, daughter of William Smith and Mary Sammerzel, of the Island of St. Eustatius, where she was born December 4, 1774. A sampler, a map of Europe made by her at the age of thirteen, a beautiful piece of needlework, is signed "Ann Smith, Finished Aug. 14, 1787." Her father subsequently removed to Philadelphia. Mr. McKean died in Philadelphia, June 3, 1802.<sup>2</sup> Mrs. McKean died November 3, 1813. Their children:—

13. i. MARY, b. January 8, 1797, Phil. (Mrs. Hoffman.)
- ii. WILLIAM S., b. (no records in family register or in 1st Presbyterian church, Phil.); died quite young.

4. MRS. ELIZABETH (McKEAN) PETTIT. — Born August 18, 1767. Married December 8, 1791, to Andrew Pettit, son of Charles Pettit, a distinguished patriot and statesman of the Revolution, a member of the Continental Congress, a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, and a member of the American Philosophical Society. He was President of the Insurance Company of North America, the oldest in the United States; and his son Andrew, a director of thirty-two years, 1806–1837. Charles Pettit died September 6, 1806, in his 70th year, leaving numerous descendants: his daughter Elizabeth married Charles Jared Ingersoll, the eminent lawyer; Andrew married Elizabeth McKean; Sarah married Andrew Bayard; Theodosia married Alexander Graydon, author of *Graydon's Memoirs*.

Andrew Pettit was born February 22, 1762, and became a

<sup>1</sup> Scharf and Westcott, i., 476.

<sup>2</sup> Not June 8th, as published in *Pa. Mag.*, iii., 235.

merchant in Philadelphia. He was elected a member of the First City Troop September 10, 1787, and became an honorary member in 1803. He was appointed by Governor McKean flour inspector, an important office, judging by the salary attached, which was \$5000 per annum. Mrs. Pettit died September 9, 1811, and is buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery. (Her tombstone records her age 42 years, a mistake for 44 years.) Mr. Pettit died March 6, 1837, leaving a high character both in his social and commercial relations. His will is recorded in Philadelphia. Mr. and Mrs. Pettit attended the First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, where many of their children were baptized. Their issue:—

- |          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| i.       | SARAH,   | b. Sept. 15, 1792; d. Phil. Aug. 16, 1851; unnm. |
| ii.      | MARY ANNE,   | b. Dec. 21, 1793, d. Phil. July 22, 1863; unnm.  |
| 14. iii. | CHARLES,   | b. March 31, 1795.                               |
| iv.      | LETITIA,   | b. Dec. 24, 1796; d. Feb. 20, 1797.              |
| 15. v.   | THOMAS McKEAN,   | b. Dec. 26, 1797.                                |
| vi.      | ELIZABETH,   | b. Feb. 10, 1800; d. April 29, 1884; unnm.       |
| 16. vii. | THEODOSIA,   | b. Jan. 10, 1802 (Mrs. Smith).                   |
| viii.    | ROBERT,  | b. Feb. 19, 1804.                                |
| 18. ix.  | HENRY,   | b. Dec. 10, 1806.                                |
| x., xi.  | <i>Two Children</i> , not mentioned in the family register, who died in extreme infancy; no records in 1st Presbyterian church register. |  |

5. MRS. LÆTITIA (McKEAN) BUCHANAN.—Born in New Castle, Delaware, January 6, 1769. She was married by the Rev. Dr. Ewing on Thursday, June 11, 1789, to Dr. George Buchanan.<sup>1</sup>

#### THE BUCHANAN FAMILY.<sup>2</sup>

The family of Buchanan is a very ancient one in the Highlands of Scotland, dating from the year 1016, and constitutes one of the Highland Clans. The genealogy of the family was published in 1723, by William Buchanan of Auchmar, entitled an "*Essay on the Surname of Buchanan*." Of this family,

<sup>1</sup> This date is from both of Governor McKean's Bible registers, and is verified by the marriage notice in the *Pa. Packet* of June 17, 1789. The day of the week also verifies the date. In the registry of the First Presbyterian church, Philadelphia, the date is given June 10th. The entry is there interlined, and in a different hand from the rest of the page. The register is published in the *Pennsylvania Archives*, 2d Series, vols. viii., ix., which has made the error widely known.

<sup>2</sup> The arms of this family, with various differences in the several branches, are *Or, a lion rampant sable, armed and langued gules, within a double tressure flowered and counterflowered with fleurs-de-lys of the second*.

of the Drumakill branch, was Mungo Buchanan, of Hiltoun and Auchentorlie, who was admitted a Writer to the Signet, November 4, 1695, and who was married January 22, 1687, to Anna Barclay, and died April 3, 1710, leaving several sons, among whom was :—<sup>1</sup>

Dr. George Buchanan, born in Scotland about 1698, emigrated to Maryland in 1723, practiced medicine, and was appointed in 1729 one of the commissioners to lay out the town of Baltimore. He was a member of the General Assembly in 1749. He married Eleanor Rogers, daughter of Nicholas Rogers; and died April 23, 1750. His remains were interred in the family burial ground on his estate, called Druid Hill, the name of which he had at first called *Auchentorlie*, after the family estates in Scotland. Druid Hill, containing 500 acres, remained in possession of his descendants until 1860, when it was sold by Lloyd N. Rogers, to the city of Baltimore for \$500,000, and is now the beautiful Druid Hill Park.<sup>2</sup>

His second son, General Andrew Buchanan, born October 22, 1734, was Lieutenant of Baltimore county, and presiding justice. He acted a conspicuous part during the Revolution, being a member of the committees of Correspondence, 1774, and of Observation, 1775, and one of the five brigadier generals of the State troops, 1776. He was married July 20, 1760, to Susan Lawson, and died March 12, 1786, and is buried at Druid Hill.<sup>3</sup> His eldest son :—

Dr. George Buchanan, was born in Baltimore, September 19, 1763, married Lætitia McKean as above stated. He studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania under the celebrated Dr. William Shippen, and graduated as a bachelor of medicine in 1785. He then went abroad and prosecuted his studies at Edinburgh and Paris. He received the degree of bachelor of medicine at the American Physical Society of Edinburgh, in 1786, and the next year was admitted a member of the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh, and subsequently became its president.<sup>4</sup> In 1786 he was also elected a member of the American Philosophical Society.

<sup>1</sup> Letter, July 27, 1888, of J. Guthrie Smith, Esq., of Mugdock Castle, Milngavie, Scotland.

<sup>2</sup> *Baltimore during the Rev. War*, Robt. Purviance, 1849. *American Archives*, P. Force, numerous references. Scharf's *Hist. Maryland*.

<sup>3</sup> Griffith's *Annals of Baltimore*, 1824. Scharf's *Chronicles of Baltimore*, 1874. Brantz Meyer's *Baltimore past and present, historical and biographical*. Quinan's *Medical Annals of Baltimore*, 1884.

<sup>4</sup> Allibone, *Dict. of Authors*.

Dr. Buchanan returned to Baltimore in 1789, and the same year received his degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and entered into practice in Baltimore in partnership with Dr. Samuel S. Coale. He was at this time appointed physician to the Alms-house. The Medical Society of Baltimore was also organized this year, of which Dr. Buchanan was one of the founders. During the winter of 1789-90 he delivered a course of lectures on obstetrics, at the close of which his pupils published a complimentary notice, hoping that the lectures of Dr. Buchanan and Dr. Wiesenthal may prove the beginning of a permanent medical school. The Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland was organized in 1799, of which Dr. Buchanan was one of the charter members.

He is the author of the following works: His thesis *Dessertatio Physiologica de Causis Respirationis ejusdemque affectibus*, University of Pennsylvania, 1785, pp. 30, Phila. 1789; *Treatise on the Typhus Fever*, published for the benefit of establishing a Lying-in-Hospital in Baltimore, printed by William Goddard, Baltimore, 1789, 16mo., pp. 25; the first published medical monograph of a Baltimore physician. But two copies of this are known, one in the Boston Athenæum among the pamphlets of General Washington, and the other presented by the author to the Royal Society of London. *Letter to the Inhabitants of Baltimore, in which is suggested the Registration of Deaths, the Formation of a Public Park, and the Organization of a Humane Society*;<sup>1</sup> *An Appeal for the establishment of a Humane Society*, in connection with Drs. George Brown, Andrew Wiesenthal, Lyde Goodwin, Samuel S. Coale, James Wynkoop, George P. Stevenson, and Moses Haslett.<sup>2</sup> *An Oration upon the Moral and Political Evil of Slavery, delivered at a public meeting of the Maryland Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery, and the Relief of Free Negroes and others unlawfully held in bondage*, Baltimore, July 4, 1791. Dedicated to Vice President Thomas Jefferson, and printed by P. Edwards, 1793. A copy of this was found in the Boston Athenæum, among the Washington pamphlets, with George Washington's autograph on the title page. It was considered so important a publication that it gave rise to W. F. Poole's *Anti-Slavery Opinions before the year 1800*, Cin., Clark and Co., 8vo., in which is given a facsimile of the oration.

<sup>1</sup>*Balt. Journal and Daily Adv.*, June 22, 1790.

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, July 9, 1790.

Dr. Buchanan was a member of the First Branch of the City Council, 1797-8, at the first election after Baltimore had been incorporated a city. He was a magistrate in 1799; and in 1803, October 3, a candidate for Congress, but not elected; there being three candidates, N. R. Moore, William McCreery and George Buchanan, the first named receiving a majority of the votes cast.

In 1806, July 4, Dr. Buchanan was appointed by Governor McKean physician at the Lazaretto, six miles below Philadelphia, and removed with his family to that city. Governor McKean was assailed for this appointment, but upon giving his reasons as already narrated on a former page, showed that the appointment was proper and according to law.

Dr. Buchanan did not long enjoy his appointment, for he was stricken with yellow fever contracted in the discharge of his duties, and died July 9th, 1808, and was buried at the Lazaretto. "The duties of his office were performed with a mildness of temper and correctness of manner that engaged the attention of all with whom he had intercourse. The sick or unfortunate were objects of his particular attention. The feelings of the man were never lost, nor the dictates of humanity ever neglected in the performance of official duty. In private life he was amiable, respected and beloved. In the character of a husband, father and master, his example was worthy of imitation. He was a sincere and devout Christian; and by his premature death society is deprived of a good and useful member, and skillful physician. . . ."<sup>1</sup> For the principal facts of Dr. Buchanan's professional life we are indebted chiefly to the researches of Dr. John R. Quinan, as published in his *Medical Annals of Baltimore*, 1884; and also in a biography, page 53 of the *Transactions of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland*, April, 1881. Dr. Buchanan's diplomas are in possession of George O. G. Coale, of Boston.<sup>2</sup>

Mrs. Buchanan, after her husband's death, removed to Philadelphia. In 1825-35 she resided at No. 43 South Eighth street (between Chestnut and Walnut, east side, about five doors below Chestnut). At this time the city extended no farther west than Twelfth street, or its vicinity. Mrs. Buchanan died on Sunday, February 9, 1845; a notice appeared in the *U. S. Gazette* of the 10th that the funeral would take place on Tues-

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<sup>1</sup> Newspaper obituary, date unknown.

<sup>2</sup> See also Scharf's *Chronicles of Baltimore*, especially pp. 255-9; *Journals 18th H. R. of Pa.*, 342-3.

day from her late residence, 125 South Ninth street. She was buried in Woodlands Cemetery, her tombstone giving the date of her death wrongly, February 9, 1846, instead of 1845. Her will, dated May 30, 1843, proved March 10, 1845. "She was a friend of the poor, earnest in the discharge of her duty, zealous in all good works; . . . I must not forget to mention—even in death—my long recollection of her personal beauty, which she maintained in a large degree to the last."<sup>1</sup> Her portrait by Miss Peale is in possession of the Misses Coale. A silhouette—the only likeness of Dr. Buchanan—is also in their possession. No family Bible record can be found among any of Dr. Buchanan's descendants. There is, however, an old list of names of children, with dates of birth and death. I mention this particularly as the discrepancies are remarkable between (1) the above-named "old list;" (2), St. Paul's Church Register, which has been carefully examined; and (3), the day each child believed to be his birthday. The coincidence of birth-days is also remarkable, and is one fact whereby the dates are verified (See Appendix II.)

Dr. and Mrs. Buchanan's children are as follows:—

- |           |                  |   |
|-----------|------------------|---|
| i.        | SUSANNA,         | b. April 9, 1790; d. Aug. 24, 1795.   |
| ii.       | THOMAS McKEAN,   | b. Sept. 17, 1791; d. Oct. 5, 1791.   |
| 19. iii.  | MARY ANN,        | b. Oct. 15, 1792 (Mrs. Coale).  |
| 20. iv.   | REBECCA SUSANNA, | b. Oct. 15, 1793.   |
| v.        | ANDREW,          | b. Nov. 10, 1794; d. —; bur. May 1, 1796<br>(St. P. church).  |
| 21. vi.   | GEORGE,          | b. July 27, 1796.   |
| 22. vii.  | McKEAN,          | b. July 27, 1798.   |
| 23. viii. | FRANKLIN,        | b. Sept. 17, 1800.  |
| ix.       | ELIZABETH,       | b. Jan. 25, 1801; d. Aug. 24, 1825. (These<br>dates are on her tombstone in Woodland's<br>Cemetery, Philadelphia. |
| x.        | JOSEPH McKEAN,   | b. May 7, 1804; d. June 7, 1804.  |
| 20. xi.   | LÆTITIA EGGER,   | b. Oct. 17, 1806.   |

6. MRS. ANNE (McKEAN) BUCHANAN:—Born February 25, 1773. She was married April 6, 1797, to Andrew Buchanan, son of General Andrew Buchanan, and younger brother to Dr. George Buchanan. Another brother writing soon after the wedding, remarks that "Andrew has brought home an handsome, accomplished, and I trust amiable woman." Andrew was born in Baltimore, July 29, 1766, and was a merchant in that city. Mrs. Anne Buchanan died May 26, 1804, and was buried on the 28th (St. Paul's Ch. Regis-

<sup>1</sup>Newspaper obituary, date unknown.

ter), in the Buchanan graveyard at Druid Hill. (The date June 3, 1804, Pa. Mag., iii, 235, is wrong.)

(After her death Mr. Buchanan married a second time, Miss Carolina Virginia Marylanda Johnson, daughter of Joshua Johnson, Esq., and sister of Mrs. President John Quincy Adams, by whom he had one child, the late Brevet Maj. General Robert C. Buchanan, U. S. Army, a veteran officer of the Mexican and late war, and the recipient of five brevets for gallantry and bravery in action.)

Andrew Buchanan died in Baltimore, October 2, 1811, and was also buried on the 4th (St. Paul's Ch. Reg.), at Druid Hill. A portrait of him by Savage, 1795. and also one of his second wife by Savage in 1796, are in possession of Mrs. General R. C. Buchanan. They are now in the Corcoran Art Gallery at Washington, where they were placed with others, December 12. 1878.

The children of Andrew and Anne Buchanan are :—

- |          |                |  |
|----------|----------------|--|
| 24. i.   | SUSAN,         | b. Feb. 27, 1798, Baltimore (Mrs. Newman). |
| 25. ii.  | MARY,          | b. Nov. 1, 1800, Baltimore (Mrs. Sanford.) |
| 26. iii. | THOMAS McKEAN, | b. Aug. 14, 1802.                          |
| 27. iv.  | ANN McKEAN,    | b. May 8, 1803 (Mrs. Wade.)                |

7. SARAH MARIA THERESA (McKEAN), MARCHIONESS DE CASA YRUJO.—Born in Newark, Delaware, July 8, 1777; baptized according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church, April 8, 1780. Her great beauty and many accomplishments made her one of the leading belles in Philadelphia, then the seat of government.

A description of society at this time (during Washington's administration) has been given in that elegant work, *The Republican Court*, by Rufus Wilmot Griswold, 1867; illustrated by numerous likenesses of the most prominent ladies. Among these engravings is one of Miss Sally McKean, from the original portrait by Gilbert Stuart, now in the possession of her nephew, Henry Pratt McKean, Esq., of Philadelphia. The author of that work testifies to her great beauty, and it is a fact that all historical writers who mention her, speak also of her beauty. The country was just recovering from the revolutionary struggle, and society was never gayer than at this time. In the Scharf and Westcott's *History of Philadelphia* (ii. 905), may be found a description of Mrs. Washington's first reception, by Miss McKean, in a letter to a friend in New York. Another entertainment was a dinner given in June, 1796, by a resident of Arch street, whose name is not men-

tioned, but suspected to be President Washington. "Among the first to arrive," says the narrator, "was Chief Justice McKean, accompanied by his lovely daughter, Miss Sally McKean. Miss McKean had many admirers, but her heart was still her own. She wore a blue satin dress trimmed with white crape and flowers, and petticoat of white crape richly embroidered, and across the front a festoon of rose color caught up with flowers. . . . The next to arrive was Señor Don Carlos Martinez de Yrujo,<sup>1</sup> a stranger to almost all the guests. He spoke with ease, but with a foreign accent, and was soon lost in amazement at the grace and beauty of Miss McKean." Sir Robert Liston, the British Minister, and Lady Liston, Volney the traveller, Gilbert Stuart, Mrs. Henry Clymer, and Mrs. William Bingham the beautiful daughters of Thomas Willing, and many others, were present.<sup>2</sup> The acquaintance thus commenced resulted in the marriage of Miss McKean to Señor Martinez de Yrujo, at Philadelphia, April 10, 1798.

Señor Don Carlos Martinez de Yrujo y Tacon was born at Cartagena, Spain, December 4, 1763. He was educated at the University of Salamanca; entered the diplomatic service, and, after having filled other minor posts, was appointed His Catholic Majesty's envoy extraordinary, and minister plenipotentiary near the government of the United States—Philadelphia being then the capital, before the laying out of Washington. He arrived in this country in June, 1796; and married Miss McKean as above related. He then resided at No. 315 High street (now Market street), on the north side between Eighth and Ninth streets; the house had been previously occupied in 1795 by Pierce Butler, senator from South Carolina. In 1802 he lived in a large house surrounded by spacious grounds at Mt. Pleasant, in what is now the East Fairmount Park. In March, 1797, President Adams was inaugurated. A contemporary describing the ceremonies mentions Señor Martinez de Yrujo as follows: "He was of middle size, of round person, florid complexion, and hair powdered like a snow ball; dark-striped silk coat, lined with satin; white waistcoat, black silk breeches, white silk stockings, shoes and buckles. He had by his side an elegant-hilted small-sword, and his chapeau, tipped with white feathers, under his arm."<sup>3</sup> His lawsuits for slander

<sup>1</sup> Name given wrongly, and here corrected.

<sup>2</sup> George C. Mason, biographer of Gilbert Stuart, in the *N. Y. Evening Post*, March 24, 1879.

<sup>3</sup> Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phil.*, ii., 913.



against William Colbett, have already been noted in the biography of Governor McKean.

In 1803, Señor Martínez de Yrujo was ennobled, being created Marquis de Casa Yrujo. Soon after this, in 1806 or earlier, he was living in the southeast corner of Pine and Second streets, in the large house of John Ross, a merchant.<sup>1</sup>

Some new and interesting facts of social and political life in these times have recently been brought to light by Mr. Henry Adams.<sup>2</sup>

“In Jefferson’s domestic, as well as his political household, the Marquis of Casa Yrujo was thoroughly at home, for he had a double title to confidence, and even to affection. His first claim was due to his marriage with a daughter of Governor McKean of Pennsylvania, whose importance in the Republican party was great. His second claim was political. . . . Thus Yrujo was doubly and trebly attached to the Administration. Proud as a typical Spaniard should be, and mingling an infusion of vanity with his pride, irascible, headstrong, indiscreet as was possible for a diplomatist, and afraid of no prince or president; young, able, quick, and aggressive; devoted to his king and country; a flighty and dangerous friend, but a most troublesome enemy; always in difficulties, but in spite of fantastic outbursts always respectable,—Yrujo needed only the contrast of characters such as those of Pickering or Madison to make him the most entertaining figure in Washington politics.”

The Marquis de Casa Yrujo protested strongly against the purchase of Louisiana, and in the midst or the rejoicing at the news that the purchase had been consummated, wrote to Mr. Madison, the Secretary of State, and with skillful diplomacy based his objections upon quite novel grounds—“that he had bought stolen goods, and Spain as the rightful owner protested against the sale.”<sup>3</sup>

Soon after this the Marquis opposed the purchase of Florida, and the correspondence on the subject increased in heat on both sides; until it culminated in an open quarrel, which was aggravated by some rules of etiquette promulgated by the President, but considered offensive by the foreign ministers. Regarding certain Franco-Spanish spoliation claims, the Marquis de Casa Yrujo sent to the Secretary of State an ad-

<sup>1</sup>*Pa. Mag.*, iv., 48.

<sup>2</sup>*Hist. U. S. during the First Administration of Thomas Jefferson*, 2 vols., 1889, i., 425.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, ii., 252, quoting Yrujo to Madison, Sept. 4, and 27, 1803; *State Papers*, ii., 569.

verse opinion by five prominent lawyers—Jared Ingersoll, William Rawle, Joseph B. McKean, Peter S. Duponceau, and Edward Livingston. When the correspondence with the opinion given by these persons was sent to the Senate, it caused much excitement, and a resolution was passed directing the President to institute proceedings against those gentlemen, “whose legal, social and political character, made a prosecution as unwise in politics, as it was doubtful in law.”<sup>1</sup>

“The passage of the Bill which made Mobile a collection district, and a part of Mississippi territory, gave Yrujo a chance to retaliate. About a fortnight after the President had signed this law, Yrujo one morning entered the State Department with the printed Act in his hand, and overwhelmed Madison with reproaches, which he immediately afterward supported in a note, so severe as to require punishment, and so able as to admit of none. He had at first, he said, regarded as ‘an atrocious libel’ on the United States government, the assertion that it had made a law which usurped the rights of Spanish sovereignty; yet such was the case. He gave a short and clear abstract of the evidence which refuted the claim to West Florida, and closed by requesting that the law be annulled. Madison could neither maintain the law nor annul it; he could not even explain it away.”<sup>2</sup>

The Marquis de Casa Yrujo soon after left Washington without taking leave of the Secretary of State. The fall of 1805 he passed in Philadelphia; and on the appearance of the President’s Annual Message, which contained a general and loose statement of the grievances against Spain, the Marquis wrote under date of Dec. 6, 1805, a keen note to the Secretary of State criticising, not without justice, the assertions made by the President. To this the Secretary made no reply, holding that executive communications to Congress were not open to diplomatic discussion. The quarrel between these officials still continued, and the recall of the Marquis had been asked by the Secretary of State. In the meantime it was supposed that the Marquis would remain away from the capital; but on January 15, 1806, society in that city was startled by learning that the Marquis had arrived in Washington. The same evening it was intimated to him by the Secretary of State that his appearance at Washington was a surprise, and it was hoped that his departure from the country would not be unnecessarily delayed. This note “aroused him to passion only equalled by

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<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.*, ii., 258, 259.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, ii., 260; letter of de Yrujo to Madison, March 7, 1804, MSS. State Dept. Archives.

the temper of John Randolph of Roanoke." He retorted to Madison's insult by replying, "I intend remaining in the city, four miles square, in which the Government resides, as long as it may suit the interests of the King my master, or my own personal convenience." A few days after he sent a formal protest to the Department "that the envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of his Catholic Majesty near the United States, receives no orders except from his sovereign."

The Marquis continued to reside in the country by way of bravado, and annoyed Mr. Madison by attacks on him from time to time through the Federalist newspapers.<sup>1</sup>

His last letter to the Secretary of State is dated February 4, 1806, but his successor did not present his credentials until July 7, 1807. In 1809, Mr. Madison, in a letter to Thomas Jefferson, mentions that the Marquis de Casa Yrujo was then at Cadiz, where he had erected large mills upon a plan brought from Philadelphia. He was the first one in Spain who applied steam to the grinding of corn.<sup>2</sup>

The Marquis de Casa Yrujo was not long after this appointed envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary at Rio Janeiro. He returned from this mission in 1813, stopping in Philadelphia on his way home. Ex-Governor McKean, writing to Mr. Adams in August, 1813, speaks of his visit: "The Marquis de Casa Yrujo, with my daughter and their children and servants, made me a visit on his return from an embassy to the Prince Regent of Portugal in Rio Janeiro in Brazil."<sup>3</sup> It was at this time that others of Governor McKean's grandsons remember the Marquis and their aunt, and recall their cousin as a playmate of their boyish days.

In 1821, the Marquis was appointed minister at Paris, and subsequently became first Secretary of State (Foreign Affairs), which last post he held at the time of his death. He did not hold the office long, but was attacked with apoplexy and died in Madrid, January 17, 1824.

He was a Knight Grand Cross of the Orders of Charles III, Ysabel la Catolica, St. Ferdinand and St. Januarius of Naples; the Danneborg of Denmark; a *Gentilhombre de Camara* (Gentleman of the Bedchamber) to H. C. Majesty, and an Honorary

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. U. S., during the Second Administration of Thomas Jefferson*, 2 vols. 1889, i., 184 to 187, 209.

<sup>2</sup> Letters of Madison, 1865, ii., 437; *Revolutions in Spain*, W. Walton, London, 1837, i., 343.

<sup>3</sup> Adams' *Works*, x., 60.

Councillor of State. In 1804, or earlier, while minister to this country, was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society.

Portraits of the Marquis and Marchioness de Casa Yrujo by Stuart are in possession of the present Marquis at Madrid; other portraits of them, also by Stuart, are in possession of Mr. Henry Pratt McKean, of Philadelphia.<sup>1</sup> A crayon of the Marquis by Sharpless, taken about 1800, hangs in the old State House, Independence Hall, Philadelphia. He is here represented in a scarlet coat. Wood cuts of the Marchioness, after the steel engraving in the Republican Court, may be found in Scharf and Westcott's *History of Philadelphia*, and Scharf's *History of Delaware*.

The Marchioness survived her husband some years, and died in Madrid, January 4, 1841. Her will is dated July 28, 1840.

Their children (surname, Martinez de Yrujo y McKean):

- |          |                           |  |
|----------|---------------------------|--|
| i.       | DON CARLOS FERNANDO,      | b. Phil. April 17, 1799; died the year of his birth.                                   |
| 28. ii.  | Doña NARCISA MARIA LUISA, | b. Phil.; bapt. Nov. 30, 1800 (Doña Narcisa M. L. Pierrard).                           |
| 29. iii. | DON CARLOS FERNANDO,      | b. Washington, D. C., Dec. 14, 1802 (Second Marquis de Casa Yrujo, Duke de Sotomayor). |

8. THOMAS McKEAN, JR.—Born November 20, 1779. He resided in Philadelphia, and was married September 14, 1809, to Sarah Clementina Pratt, daughter of Henry Pratt, and granddaughter of Matthew Pratt, a portrait painter. Henry Pratt was a successful shipping merchant in Philadelphia. He purchased an estate called "The Hills," which is now part of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, where he entertained extensively. He married Elizabeth Dundas; their daughter, Sarah Clementina, born December 1, 1791, was educated at the Moravian Female Seminary at Bethlehem, Pa., a noted institution, founded in 1749, and still in a flourishing condition.

Mr. McKean followed no profession, but for a time, while his father was Governor, he was his private secretary. He was appointed adjutant-general of the State militia, July 23, 1808, holding the office about three years, when the appointment was vacated. He took his father's part in the political controversies with the legislature and with individuals; his challenge to Dr. Leib in the fall of 1807, and the indictment

<sup>1</sup> The latter, but not the former, are catalogued among Stuart's works in his *Life and Works*, by George C. Mason, 1879, p. 177.

of himself and his second, Major Dennis, by the grand jury have been mentioned on a former page.<sup>1</sup>

Mrs. McKean died December 31, 1836; and Mr. McKean May 5, 1852, after a lengthy decline. Their children:

- 30. i. HENRY PRATT, b. Phil. May 3, 1810.
- 31. ii. SARAH ANN, b. Phil. Aug. 10, 1811 (Mrs. Trott).
- 32. iii. ELIZABETH DUNDAS, b. Phil. March 3, 1815 (Mrs. A. E. Borie).
- 33. iv. CLEMENTINA SOPHIA, b. Phil. May 27, 1820 (Mrs. Charles L. Borie).

## THIRD GENERATION.

### CHILDREN OF JUDGE JOSEPH B. McKEAN. [2.]

9. SAMUEL MILES McKEAN.—Born in Philadelphia, November 28, 1789. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1808, subsequently taking the master's degree. He studied law in the office of the Hon. Alexander J. Dallas; but gave up that profession and was appointed to a clerkship in the Treasury Department in 1817. In this capacity he served until 1830, when he was appointed disbursing agent for the Treasury; and acted as such in a most efficient manner until 1853, when Congress created three positions in the Treasury, called disbursing clerks. To one of these responsible positions Mr. McKean was appointed, remaining in that office until the time of his death. All the money for the expenses of the Department passed through his hands during many years; and during the whole of his continuous service of over half a century, his ability and integrity in the performance of these responsible duties, made him an honored and respected official of this department.

Mr. McKean owned a copy by McMurtrie, of Stuart's portrait of Governor McKean, and also a portrait by Stuart, of Colonel Samuel Miles, of Revolutionary fame, both now in possession of his daughters.

He was married in Washington, May 1, 1819, to Mary Frances King. She was born in Annapolis, Md., September 3, 1793, the daughter of Josias Wilson King, of Port Tobacco, Charles co., Md., who was an early officer of the State Department, and removed with the seat of government from Philadel-

<sup>1</sup>*Historic Mansions of Phila.; Hist. Beth. Fem. Sem.; Bench and Bar.*

phia to Washington about the year 1800, and died in May, 1833. Mr. McKean died February 8, 1868; and his wife followed him October 13, 1875. They are buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. Their children, now residing in Washington, D. C.:—

- |                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| i. LETITIA H.              | v. KATHERINE W. |
| ii. MARY MILES. d. æ. 5 y. | vi. HARRIET M.  |
| iii. ELIZABETH R.          | vii. MARY K.    |
| iv. FRANCES M.             | viii. MARCIA V. |

10. JOSEPH KIRKBRIDE McKEAN: Born in Philadelphia, November 14, 1792. Graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1808, subsequently taking his master's degree, and studied law; admitted to the bar May 24, 1813,<sup>1</sup> and died unmarried February 26, 1816 (1st Presb. Ch. Records).

11. COMMODORE WILLIAM WISTER McKEAN, U. S. Navy.—Born in Pennsylvania September 19, 1800.<sup>2</sup> Appointed a midshipman in the Navy, November 30, 1814. In 1821–2, he was in command of the schooner Alligator, twelve guns, in Commodore David Porter's squadron, and was active in suppressing piracy in the West Indies; where he captured the piratical schooner Cienega, April 30, 1822, and sent her to the United States. He subsequently commanded the schooner Terrier in this same squadron some time during 1823–4. Commissioned lieutenant, January 13, 1825. Philadelphia Navy Yard, 1826. Sloop Warren, February, 1827, to August, 1830, Mediterranean squadron. Rendezvous, Philadelphia, 1833. Sloop of war Natchez, Brazil squadron, 1834–5. Navy Yard, Philadelphia, 1837–40. Commissioned Commander, September 8, 1841. Commanding Brig Dolphin, ten guns, Home squadron, September 1841 to April 1842. Governor of the Naval Asylum, Philadelphia, 1843–4. Commanding sloop of war Dale, June, 1846, to March or April, 1847, Pacific squadron, when, on account of ill health, Commander McKean was sent home from Panama. Rendezvous, Philadelphia, 1848–9. Commanding frigate Raritan, flag ship of Commodore C. F. McCauley, Pacific squadron, 1852 to January 1853. President of a Court of Inquiry, 1856. Commissioned Captain, September 14, 1855. Governor of the Naval Asylum, 1858–60.

<sup>1</sup>*Bench and Bar*, J. Hill Martin.

<sup>2</sup>The records of the Navy Department have his birth wrongly, November 17, 1800.

In 1860, he was ordered on special duty to the large steam frigate Niagara, and conveyed to their home the Japanese embassy, which had been in this country some months. On his return to the United States in April, 1861, at the breaking out of the civil war, he was ordered to the command of the Gulf squadron as flag officer, assuming the command the latter part of September, 1861. He made an attack on Fort McRae, Pensacola Bay, which however proved indecisive. The squadron becoming too large for one command, was divided, and Flag-officer Farragut relieved him of the command of the West squadron, January 9, 1862, Flag-officer McKean retaining the East squadron. On June 4, 1862, he was relieved of this command by Captain Lardner, and returned home. He was placed on the retired list December 27, 1861, although still retained in command of the squadron, and promoted to be a Commodore on the retired list, July 16, 1862. On special duty, Philadelphia, 1865. He was as eminent for his piety as for his skill and daring, and won the esteem of all who were under his command for his consistent and practical christian character. He was married August 25, 1824, to Davis Rosa Clark, who was born in 1806 (day unknown to the family). Commodore McKean died April 22, 1865, at *The Moorings*, his home, in Binghamton, N. Y. Mrs. McKean died October 19, 1877.<sup>1</sup>

Their children (see Appendix II.):

- |           |                        |   |
|-----------|------------------------|---|
| i.        | MARY,                  | b. —; d., bur. Feb. 23, 1827, æ. 17 mo.<br>(1st Presb. Ch., Phila.) |
| 34. ii.   | JOSEPH BORDEN,         | b. Aug. 11, 1827.   |
| iii.      | ELIZABETH,             | b. —; d. in infancy.  |
| 35. iv.   | FRANKLIN BUCHANAN,     | b. Aug. 17, 1830.   |
| 36. v.    | CAROLINE,              | b. Phil. — (Mrs. W. N. Wilson).                                     |
| 37. vi.   | ELIZABETH DAVIS CLARK, | b. June 24, 1836 (Mrs. Ely).  |
| vii.      | KATHARINE MYERS,       | b. —.   |
| 38. viii. | WILLIAM BISHOP,        | b. Nov. 2, 1840.  |
| 39. ix.   | MARY MILES,            | b. Jan. 29, 1843 (Mrs. Jackson).                                    |
| 40. x.    | ROSA,                  | b. — (Mrs. Hotchkiss).  |
| xi.       | SAMUEL MILES,          | b. —, a farmer, Binghamton, N. Y.                                   |
| xii.      | ADELINE BAYARD,        | b. —. Resides in Binghamton, N. Y.                                  |

12. MRS. ADELINE JULIA (McKEAN) BAYARD.— Born April 22, 1809. She was married October 4, 1836, at Philadelphia, to Charles Pettit Bayard, Esq., son of Andrew Bayard, mentioned in a previous page, as having married a daughter of Charles Pettit.

<sup>1</sup>Hamersly's *Gen. Nav. Reg.*; *The Gulf and Inland Waters*, Mahan; *Blockade and the Cruisers*, Soley, and other sources.

## THE BAYARD FAMILY.

Belthazar Bayard had a son Samuel, a rich merchant of Amsterdam, of French Huguenot extraction, who married Anna, sister of Petrus Stuyvesant, the last Dutch governor of New York, then called New Amsterdam. Stuyvesant had married Judith, sister of the above Samuel. In the same ship that brought over Governor Stuyvesant, came also Anna, widow of Samuel Bayard, and her three sons, Petrus, Belthazar, and Nicholas, who are the ancestors of all the American Bayards. Petrus married Blandina Kierstede in 1674, and had Samuel, Petrus, and Sarah.—Samuel removed from New York to Bohemia Manor, Md., in 1698. He married Susannah Bowchelle, and after her death, Elizabeth Sluyter, and had James, Peter, Samuel, and Mary Ann.—James married Mary Asheton, and had twin sons, John Bubenheim, James Asheton, and a daughter who d. æ. 17.—John inherited his father's estate, dropped his middle name, and is known as Colonel John Bayard, a gallant soldier of the Revolution. James was the father of the late Senator 1805–13, whose son and grandson became senators, and distinguished in the civil history of the country.—Colonel John Bayard was born August 11, 1738, and married Margaret Hodge, of Philadelphia, July 5, 1759.—His second child, Andrew, was born September 24, 1761, married Sarah Pettit, March 15, 1792; and died December 13, 1830.—His 7th child and 3d son was Charles Pettit Bayard, above-mentioned, born July 22, 1809.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Bayard graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1826, subsequently taking his master's degree. He was a broker in Philadelphia, residing in Germantown. He married as above mentioned, Adeline J. McKean, and died November 15, 1884. His wife died June 7, 1886. Their children :

- |     |       |                    |   |
|-----|-------|--------------------|---|
|     | i.    | ANNA MARIA,        | b. Oct. 8, 1837, Phila. <sup>2</sup>  |
| 41. | ii.   | CHARLES McKEAN,    | b. Oct. 30, 1838, Phila.  |
|     | iii.  | JOHN HENRY,        | b. Nov. 18, 1841; d. July 2, 1842.  |
|     | iv.   | WILLIAM McKEAN,    | b. May 13, 1843, Germantown.  |
| 42. | v.    | JAMES,             | b. June 9, 1845, Phila.   |
|     | vi.   | <i>A daughter,</i> | b. Feb. 27, 1847; d. the same day.  |
|     | vii.  | ADELINE JULIA,     | b. Jan. 1, 1849; bapt. July 5, 1849, "with water from the river Jordan" (1st Pres. Ch. Rec.); d. July 28, 1849. |
| 43. | viii. | CAROLINE ROSA,     | b. Sept. 26, 1850, Phila. (Mrs. Henry.)   |

<sup>1</sup>*Col. John Bayard*, and Bayard family of Am., R. Grant White, 1878; *Appleton's Cycl. of Biog.*, *Col. J. Bayard's Biog.* Letters of Miss Anna M. Bayard.

<sup>2</sup>While this work was in press, Miss Bayard was attacked by the epidemic prevailing over this country and Europe, and died suddenly, Jan. 10, 1890.



**CHILD OF ROBERT McKEAN. [3.]**

13. MRS. MARY (McKEAN) HOFFMAN.—Born in Philadelphia, January 8, 1797. (The 2d Presb. Church Phila. records give the date wrongly July 8, 1796.) She was married in Philadelphia, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop White, January 8, 1816, on her 19th birthday, to David Hoffman, Esq. He was the eleventh of twelve children, born December 24, 1784, late in the day, and celebrated the anniversary on the 25th; on which account his biographers give the date of his birth wrongly, December 25. He was educated as a lawyer, and became eminent in his profession, and as a legal writer. He was professor of law in the University of Maryland at Baltimore, from 1817 to 1836, when the professorship was abolished. During this time he published many works on jurisprudence. In the fall of 1836 he took up politics, in favor of William Henry Harrison; and was a presidential elector at large, from Maryland. He was also a presidential elector in 1840. He traveled two years in Europe; and on his return practised law in Philadelphia; where he was admitted to the bar December 16, 1843. In 1847 he again visited Europe for literary purposes, and while in London, contributed to the *Times* a series of articles on the political and social arrangements, and economical condition of the United States; which were highly esteemed.

His principal work on Jurisprudence is (1) *A course of Legal Study*, 1817; 2d Ed. 1836. Of this work Justice Story said "It contained by far the most perfect system for the study of the law which has ever been offered to the public." (See *New Am. Encycl.*) (2) *Legal Outlines*, 1836; of which but one volume ever appeared; it has been commended as a text book. He also wrote on other subjects; (3) *Miscellaneous thoughts on men, manners and things*, by Anthony Grumbler, of Grumbleton Hall, Esq., 1837. (4) *Viator, a peep into my note-book*; 1841. (5) *Legal Hints*, 1846. (6) *Chronicles selected from the originals of Cartaphilus the Wandering Jew*, 1855. He employed the legend to embellish an epitomized history of government and religion since the time of Christ. Two volumes, bringing the history down to the year 573, were issued in a striking form, London, 1853. The third volume was partly in type when the author returned to the United States; three other volumes had been in great part written. Mr. Hoffman also

left in manuscript *Moot Court Decisions*; and an *Abridgment of Lord Coke's Reports with Notes*. He returned to the United States in 1853. And while on a visit to New York died suddenly of apoplexy, November 11, 1854.

Mr. Hoffman received the honorary degree of LL. D. from the University of Maryland, and also from Oxford, England, and J. U. D. from Gottingen, Germany. He was a member of the Maryland Historical Society at Baltimore.<sup>1</sup>

After her husband's death, Mrs. Hoffman resided in Baltimore; and subsequently in West Chester, Pa., where she died June 13, 1882, at the advanced age of 85 years. An oil portrait of Mrs. Hoffman, by Sully, and a beautiful miniature, are in the possession of her daughter, Mrs. Kerr. Their children:

- i. FREDERICK WILLIAM, b. Balt. Nov. 12, 1816; d. Lyons, France, Nov. 30, 1833; buried at Mt. Auburn Cem., Boston, Mass.
- ii. ANNE McKEAN, b. Balt. Nov. 17, 1818; d. March 3, 1819.
44. iii. ANNE McKEAN, b. Baltimore, Md. (Mrs. Kerr.)

### CHILDREN OF MRS. ELIZABETH (McKEAN) PETTIT. [4.]

14. CHARLES PETTIT.—Born March 31, 1795. (The 1st Presb. Ch. Register gives March 30.) In youth he was a supercargo, but later in life became a merchant; and subsequently went to St. Louis, where he died unmarried, August 6, 1851, and is buried in St. Louis.

15. JUDGE THOMAS McKEAN PETTIT.—Born in Philadelphia, December 26, 1797. Graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, in 1815; subsequently taking his master's degree. He entered the office of his kinsman Joseph R. Ingersoll; studied law, and was admitted to the Philadelphia bar, April 13, 1818. In 1819–21 he was Secretary of the Board of Public Education. He was appointed City Solicitor in 1820; entered into politics, as a democrat, and after the death of Governor Schulze was appointed deputy Attorney General, of the Supreme Court and Oyer and Terminer, February 9, 1824, and also in 1826. He was a member of the Hickory Club, which promoted the election of Andrew Jackson to the Presidency. Elected to the House of

<sup>1</sup> Allibone, *Dict. Authors*; *Cycl. Am. Literature*, Duyckink; Appleton, *Cycl. Biog.*; Drake, *Dict. of Biog.*; *New Am. Cyclop.*, etc.

Representatives of Pennsylvania in 1830, and took an active part in its business and discussions. The following year he was elected a member of the Select Council of the City. He was appointed an Associate Judge of the District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, February 16, 1833, until 1835, when the term for which the court was constituted had expired. But a new law having extended the court for ten years, he was re-appointed March 30, 1835, for ten years. But a few days after this, April 22, he was recommissioned by Governor Wolf as Presiding Justice of the same court, and served as such during the term of ten years; at the expiration of which he declined further appointment, so repeatedly conferred upon him; and then resumed his practice in Philadelphia. He was nominated as a representative in Congress, but his party being in a minority in his state, was not elected. Appointed by President Van Buren one of the Board of Visitors to West Point, and with Governor Marcy prepared the report of the Board; and soon after was appointed by President Polk, to be United States District Attorney for the east district of Pennsylvania, May 5, 1845. President Pierce appointed him Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, April 4, 1853, (the title has since been changed to *Director*,) but his career of usefulness was soon after terminated by death on the 30th of May, 1853. He attended St. James' Church, and is buried in St. James' churchyard at the corner of Fifth and Arch Streets, Philadelphia; the same in which Benjamin Franklin's remains are interred. (See Appendix II. 15.)

Judge Pettit was an active member of the democratic party in Pennsylvania. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and sometime Vice-President. He delivered before this society, a Memoir of Robert Vaux, formerly Vice-president, which is published among their Memorials. He also published numerous other addresses, among which are a *Discourse before the Historical Society*, (Phila., 1828;) and the Philomathean Society of the University of Pennsylvania, (1830). A 4th of July address before his democratic fellow citizens. He also assisted Thomas Sergeant to prepare *The Common Law Reports of England*, (Phila., 1822.)

In 1835, July 7, upon the death of Chief Justice Marshall, a meeting of citizens was held in Philadelphia, at which the Rt. Rev. Bishop White presided, Benjamin R. Morgan and Judge Thomas McKean Pettit were vice presidents, Nicholas Biddle and Judge Edward King were secretaries; resolutions

of respect were passed. He was a member of the Board of Managers of the Athenæum; a member of Franklin Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Pennsylvania.<sup>1</sup>

David Paul Brown in *The Forum*, ii, 350, relates the following anecdotes of Judge Pettit: While District Attorney he was prosecuting a case of great importance, in which he introduced an accomplice as witness. In the course of his argument, while he admitted there might be some objection to his witness, he pledged himself still to show that he was right in the main. "But," said Mr. B., who was engaged for the defense, "that will not be sufficient. You must show that he is right in the tail (tale) too."

In the case of the United States against Harding, in which Mr. Rush and Mr. Pettit were engaged for the prosecution, Mr. Oliver Hopkinson,<sup>2</sup> in opening his defense to the jury, said that "although the case came in with a *Rush*, it was at best but a *Pettit* affair."

The change which Judge Pettit made in his family coat of arms has already been mentioned in the biography of Governor McKean. His will is dated October 11, 1852; a codicil May 26, 1853; proved June 11, 1853, and recorded in Philadelphia.

Judge Pettit was married, in Philadelphia, February 7, 1828, to Sarah Barry, daughter of Commodore Richard Dale, a distinguished officer of the navy.<sup>3</sup> His wife pre-deceased him, dying March 6, 1839, aged about 37 years. Their children, all born in Philadelphia:

- |          |                  |  |
|----------|------------------|--|
| 45. i.   | ELIZABETH DALE,  | b. Nov. 6, 1828 (Mrs. Ronckendorf).        |
| ii.      | RICHARD DALE,    | b. Nov. 27, 1829; d. Phil. Dec. 3, 1829.   |
| iii.     | MARY MONTGOMERY, | b. Mar. 3, 1831; d. Phil. May 16, 1833.    |
| iv.      | SARAH,           | b. June 3, 1833; d. Phil. April 13, 1838.  |
| v.       | EMILY,           | b. Jan. 18, 1835; d. Phil. April 14, 1838. |
| 46. vi.  | RICHARD DALE,    | b. Feb. 9, 1837.                           |
| 47. vii. | SARAH,           | b. Feb. 18, 1839 (Mrs. Joseph M. Wilson).  |

16. MRS. THEODOSIA (PETTIT) SMITH.—Born January 10, 1802. She was married June 4, 1839, to Beaton Smith, M. D. Dr. Smith was the son of Jonathan Smith, Esq., one of the founders, and first president, of the Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company, and a brother of General Per-

<sup>1</sup> Simpson's *Em. Phils.*; Appleton's *Cycl. Biog.*; Allibone, *Dict. Authors*; Lanman, *Biog. Annals*; Drake, *Dict. Biog.*; Martin's *Bench and Bar*; Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phil.*, i., 642; ii., 1544-72, *et seq.*

<sup>2</sup> Son of Joseph, grandson of the Signer, and a relative of Judge Pettit.

<sup>3</sup> See *Pa. Mag.*, iv., 237, 494 *et seq.*

sifer F. Smith, a distinguished officer of the Mexican War. He was born about 1802, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1820, subsequently taking his master's degree, and M. D. in 1823. He traveled in Europe and completed his medical studies in Paris. Returning home he practiced medicine in Philadelphia; but was soon after induced to accept the secretaryship of his father's insurance company, which position he held for many years, until his death May 20, 1861, in his 59th year.

He took an active interest in the First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Albert Barnes, and was one of the founders and a prominent officer of the Gray Reserves, which organization became prominent during the late war. His artistic tastes led him to be one of the first patrons of the then new art of photography. He enjoyed the confidence of the community in its most enlarged sense; and besides being a faithful and thoroughly reliable officer in his business relations, he was a most amiable man in many ways—one of Philadelphia's most upright, intelligent and useful citizens. He was pre-eminently popular on account of his genial disposition, cordiality of manner, and continuous flow of wit and humor.

Dr. Smith was twice married; first to Miss Huddleson, by whom he had two children:—Emma Parry, (who married Thomas Sparhawk, and afterwards John G. Parr of Kittanning, Pa.) and Beaton Jr., who is married and now resides in Kansas. He married secondly Theodosia Pettit, who survived him, and by whom he had no issue.

Mrs. Smith lived to an advanced age. Her sisters resided with her in Philadelphia during their lifetimes, until Mrs. Smith and Miss Elizabeth Pettit were left the last of the large family, dying at the same age—84 years. Mrs. Smith died January 22, 1886.

17. PAY-DIRECTOR ROBERT PETTIT, U. S. NAVY.—Born February 19, 1804, (See Appendix II.) He entered the navy as a purser April 6, 1837, the title being subsequently changed to paymaster. He served on board of the sloop Falmouth in the Pacific squadron in 1839—June 1840; Naval Asylum Philadelphia, 1842–3; Brig Porpoise, African squadron Jan. or Feb. 1843, to November 1844; Naval Asylum Philadelphia, 1845–6; Sloop of war Saratoga, Home Squadron, April 1848, till November 1849; Receiving ship at New York, 1850–2; Frigate Cumberland, Flagship of Commodore S. H. Stringham, Mediterranean Squadron, May 1852

to July 1855; Steam Frigate Minnesota, East India Squadron, 1857 to May '59; Waiting orders, 1860-61; Steam Frigate Minnesota, 1862, North Atlantic Squadron, and was present in Hampton Roads during the attack of the Confederate Ram Virginia on the Federal Fleet at Newport News, March 8, 1862. The Minnesota ran aground during this encounter, and preparations were made to abandon and destroy her, when the appearance of the Monitor during the night changed her fate. Special duty Philadelphia, and settling accounts, 1863-4; Special duty and inspector, 1865-6; President of the board of examiners, Philadelphia, 1867; Special duty Philadelphia, 1869; Paymaster at Philadelphia, 1870-1; Naval Asylum, 1873.

Paymaster Pettit was placed on the retired list, February 19, 1866. Upon reorganizing the navy under the act of March 3, 1871, he obtained the title of Pay Director with the rank of Captain. In 1877, after forty years' service, he had the rank of Commodore.

Pay Director Pettit was married in Philadelphia by the Rev. David I. Walter, October 11, 1841, to Laura Ellmaker, daughter of Levi Ellmaker and Hannah Hopkins, who was born June 21, 1813, and died October 1, 1878. Pay Director Pettit was a thoroughly reliable officer, and well fitted for the responsible position he held; when on duty, large quantities of government property were in his charge, and many thousands of dollars passed through his hands, all of which was satisfactorily accounted for. He stood high in the estimation of the Navy Department, and of his brother officers. Philadelphia was his home, where he died May 19, 1878, leaving issue as follows:

48. i. HENRY, b. Phil. Dec. 23, 1842.  
49. ii. ROBERT ELLMAKER, b. Phil. Nov. 30, 1846.

18. HENRY PETTIT, M. D.—Born December 10, 1806, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1824, studied medicine at the same institution, and took the degrees A. M. and M. D. in 1829. The subject of his thesis was *Hydro. cephalus*. He resided in Philadelphia, where he practiced his profession until his death, April 15, 1836.

**CHILDREN OF MRS. LÆTITIA (McKEAN)  
BUCHANAN. [5.]**

19. MRS. MARY ANN (BUCHANAN) COALE.—Born in Baltimore, October 15, 1792. (See Appendix II, under No. 5.) She was married April 18, 1815, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop White, to Edward Johnson Coale, Esq.

THE COALE FAMILY.

William Coale, of Anne Arundel Co., m. 1st, Esther, whose issue apparently became extinct; 2d, Hannah; 3d, Elizabeth, dau. Ph. Thomas, by both of whom he left issue. He d. Oct. 30, 1678, leaving by his 2d wife—

William Coale, married Elizabeth, dau. Richard and Elizabeth Johns, and d. June 1715, leaving besides several others:—

Thomas Coale, rem. to Balt. co.; m. Mary, d. 1745, leaving two children:—

William Coale, of A. A. co.; m. Dec. 5, 1752, Anne Stringer, daughter of Dr. Samuel Stringer, by whom he had ten children, the eldest:—

Dr. Samuel Stringer Coale, b. March 9, 1754; m. Ap. 19, 1775, AnnHopkinson; (See Appendix II, 19), and d. Sept. 19, 1798, leaving eight children.

Edward Johnson Coale, eldest child, b. May 18, 1776.<sup>1</sup>

THE HOPKINSON FAMILY.

Thomas Hopkinson was the son of Thomas and Mary Hopkinson, of London, merchant. The son was born in London, April 6, 1709, em. to Penn.; m. Sept. 9, 1736, Mary Johnson. Her grandfather, George Johnson (son of William Johnson of Laycock, Wilts. by Elizabeth his wife) was b. at Laycock about 1620, sergeant-at-law; married Mary, and had with others Baldwin Johnson, who removed to Delaware, married Jane, widow of William Dyer of Kent co., and had Mary Johnson above named. Thomas Hopkinson her husband was a member of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, and died Nov. 5, 1751, leaving issue, eight children, among whom were i, Francis Hopkinson, Signer of the Declaration of Independence; and vi, Ann, who married, April 26, 1775, Dr. S. S. Coale, above mentioned.<sup>2</sup>

Edward J. Coale, was born May 18, 1776, at Elk Ridge, Anne Arundel co., Md. He was educated as a lawyer, and

<sup>1</sup> MS. of Dr. Christopher Johnston, Jr.

<sup>2</sup> Keith's *Provincial Councillors*, 1883, in which the family of Thomas Hopkinson, *Councillor*, is carried down to Mr. Edward J. Coale, his children and grandchildren.

studied in the office of his cousin Joseph Hopkinson, (son of the Signer) author of *Hail Columbia*. He was admitted to the Philadelphia bar April 18, 1799,<sup>1</sup> on motion of Thomas Ross in behalf of Mr. Hopkinson. While in Mr. Hopkinson's office, that gentleman was counsel for Dr. Rush in his suit against William Cobbett. Cobbett's account of this trial in his *Works*, London, 1801, xi. 363, gives a conversation he had with Mr. Coale, as follows:

"As I was going into the Court House to hear this decision, I met Mr. Coale, a young man who lived and studied with Hopkinson, the lawyer of Rush. After the usual interchange of civilities, the following dialogue ensued, the correctness of which I am ready to vouch for upon oath:

"Coale.—What are you doing here? You are going to remove cause, are you not?

"Cobbett.—Yes.

"Coale.—Then you won't succeed.

"Cobbett.—Why? How do you know I shan't?

"Coale.—Why, the Court are against you. I can tell you that.

"Cobbett.—What! Have they decided then before they have heard the parties? They can not be such barefaced rascals.

"Coale.—Well! you'll see.

"And sure enough, I did see in a very little time."

Cobbett's petition to remove the cause to the Circuit Court was rejected, as Mr. Coale had predicted.

Mr. Coale was admitted to practise before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, May 4, 1811, on motion of Mr. Hopkinson. He probably before that time resided in Baltimore; for he held the position of Register under appointment of the city in 1803.

In Baltimore, he subsequently became an extensive publisher and bookseller: He published the *Portico*, a weekly paper; which received contributions from many able pens; among them were those of Edward C. Pinckney, and Francis S. Key author of the *Star Spangled Banner*. The *Literary Visitor* was also published by him. He was one of the managers of the Washington Monument, of which the cornerstone was laid July 4, 1815; and was appointed Consular Agent of Russia for the state of Maryland, May 2, 1815; and Vice Consul of Brazil, the date of his exequatur, September 1, 1824. He held this appointment until succeeded by his connection by marriage Mr. Newman, November 8, 1831. At

<sup>1</sup> This is the date from his diploma. Martin's *Bench and Bar* gives the date of his admission April 3.



the termination of his appointment under the Russian government, the Emperor of Russia sent him a valuable diamond ring in appreciation of his services.

Mr. Coale died suddenly of Asiatic cholera in Washington, D. C., on Friday, November 16, 1832; and is buried in Washington. "In every relation of life, his conduct was exemplary. A kind father, a faithful friend, and charitable and compassionate almost to excess; respectful and obliging to his inferiors, and candid and upright to all men. Mr. Coale was originally educated for the bar; his mind and acquirements were those of a gentleman and a scholar."<sup>1</sup> Mr. Coale's diplomas are in possession of his grandson George O. G. Coale, Esq.<sup>2</sup>

Upon hearing of the birth of Mr. Coale's eldest son, Governor Thomas McKean wrote him the following letter, which has not before been published:

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 30, 1816.

*Dear Sir:* I sit down to acknowledge the receipt of the agreeable intelligence of the birth of your son, and my first and only great grandchild. Sickness, death, and many other untoward circumstances have hitherto delayed it.

May your son be a comfort and an honor to his parents and a blessing and ornament to his country. Give him learning, and a pious education; the rest will greatly depend upon his own industry and good conduct, under the favor of God. The way the twig is bent, the tree will be inclined. Eighty-two years and all the knowledge they have brought with them, have taught me to put confidence in these sentiments.

Please kiss the little gentleman for me, and give him my blessing, and may the Father of all bless him. Give my love to Mary Ann, and my respects to all enquiring friends: May you all be as happy as I wish you. *Vive vale.* THOMAS MCKEAN.

To Edward J. Coale, Esq., at Baltimore.

Mrs. Coale survived her husband many years, residing in Baltimore. Through her husband she came into possession of several valuable family portraits of the Hopkinson family, which embellished the parlors of her house, namely:

1. Thomas Hopkinson, father of the next three.
2. Francis Hopkinson, the Signer, small crayon by himself.
3. Mrs. Dr. Morgan,  $\frac{3}{4}$  length by Benjamin West.
4. Mrs. S. S. Coale, miniature size.
5. Edward J. Coale, in a scarlet cloak,

<sup>1</sup>Poulson's *Daily Amer. Adv.*, Phila., Nov. 19, 1832.

<sup>2</sup>*Bench and Bar*, Martin, 243 *et seq.*; Scharf's *Chronicles of Baltimore*, and other works as above.

by Sully. 6. Mary Coale, his sister, who married W. T. Proud, by Miller, from a portrait by Stuart. 7. Dr. S. S. Coale. 8. Joze Sylvestre Rebello, Minister from Brazil, a friend of Mr. Coale, after whom one of his daughters was named.

Mrs. Coale died April 3, 1866. Her children, all born in Baltimore:—

- |          |                      |                                 |
|----------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 50. i.   | WILLIAM EDWARD,      | b. Feb. 7, 1816.                |
| 51. ii.  | ANNE LÆTITIA,        | b. April 28, 1817 (Mrs. Brune). |
| 52. iii. | GEORGE BUCHANAN,     | b. March 5, 1819.               |
| iv.      | CATHARINE ATTERBURY, | b. June 27, 1821.               |
| v.       | ELIZABETH BUCHANAN,  | b. Aug. 14, 1823.               |
| vi.      | JOSEPHA REBELLO,     | b. April 9, 1826.               |
| 53. vii. | MARIANNA BUCHANAN,   | b. March 5, 1831 (Mrs. Brown).  |

20. Miss REBECCA S. BUCHANAN; Miss LÆTITIA E. BUCHANAN. Miss Rebecca was born October 15, 1793 (See Appendix II, under No. 5). Miss Lætitia was born October 17, 1806, at the Lazaretto, six miles below Philadelphia. The two sisters were identified together during the whole of their lifetime. Neither married, and they continued to reside in Philadelphia after their mother's death. Miss Rebecca died February 6, 1868, and is buried at Woodlands Cemetery. Miss Lætitia, in the early part of 1877, removed to Baltimore, and lived with her nieces, the Misses Coale, until her death July 11, 1883. She is also buried at Woodlands Cemetery. Miss Lætitia's extensive acquaintance not only among her near, but her distant relatives in the McKean and other families, made her the chronicler of the changes that occurred, and the possessor of much family history.

21. GENERAL GEORGE BUCHANAN.—Born in Baltimore, July 27, 1796. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1815, in the class with his cousin Judge Pettit, and Dr. George B. Wood. He subsequently took the master's degree, A. M. Since his two brothers were in the Navy, his mother left to him the tract of land she inherited from her father Governor McKean, and which in her will she calls *Auchentorlie*, after the estates in Scotland held by the family of Dr. George Buchanan, Sr. General Buchanan lived on this farm in Gregg township during his whole lifetime. In his earlier life, he served for several terms as a Justice of the Peace. As a magistrate, Squire Buchanan, as he was called by the residents, became one of the prominent men in the county. He was appointed Prothonotary of Centre county,

January 12, 1836; holding office until November 14, 1839. Formerly in the days of Whiggery, he was a member of that party, but upon its dissolution he became a democrat; and ever after was an advocate of democratic principles. In 1841, he was Captain of the Penn's Valley Troop, and in June 1852 was elected Brigadier General of the 3d Brigade, 14th Division of the Pennsylvania Militia; holding this appointment until the civil war, in 1861, broke up the Pennsylvania military organization. When the war commenced, General Buchanan was strongly solicited to accept the command of a brigade, with the rank he had held for several years past; but he declined this offer, principally on account of his age. General Buchanan was interested in an insurance company in this county, of which he was one of the officers.

He was married: first May 16, 1833, to Sarah G. Miles, daughter of Evan Miles, who was a son of Richard Miles (previously mentioned in these pages, in the biography of Joseph B. McKean.) She was born on Friday, May 23, 1806; and died on Saturday, April 13th, 1844.<sup>1</sup> General Buchanan was married secondly, June 26, 1846, at Potter's Mills, Centre co., to Mary Patterson, who died May 18, 1868, aged 58 years, an invalid for many years.

General Buchanan survived to an advanced age; a paralytic affection in March 1877, occasioned the loss of speech, but did not otherwise interfere with his movements. He died June 9, 1879, in his 83d year, having outlived his wives and all his children.

"General Buchanan had been a citizen of Centre county so long that he seemed part and parcel of it; and his death is a great loss not only to his own family but to the whole county. He was politically an active democrat; and took great interest in the success of the party, in which he was a tower of strength. He was a noble old man, as full of chivalry as a knight of the olden time, and withal a sincere Christian. General Buchanan had distinguished and honorable connections, and was a high-minded, upright gentleman."<sup>2</sup>

General Buchanan's children; by his first wife Sarah G. Miles:

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<sup>1</sup> According to a newspaper notice, which is probably the correct date; the day of the week determines it. The date is, however, recorded April 12 in the family Bible, and given April 15 in a letter of F. Potts Green, Esq., of Bellefonte, her relative.

<sup>2</sup> Bellefonte, Centre Co., paper, editorial.

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|----------|-----------------|---|
| 54. i.   | EVAN MILES,     | b. Auchentorlie, April 14, 1834.  |
| 55. ii.  | LÆTITIA,        | b. Auchentorlie, Oct. 27, 1835 (Mrs. Everett).                                |
| 56. iii. | THOMAS McKEAN,  | b. Bellefonte, Sept. 18, 1837.  |
| iv.      | GEORGE LLOYD,   | b. Bellefonte, Nov. 11, 1839; d. Dec. 11, 1857; bur. Spring Mills, Centre Co. |
| v.       | JOHN BLANCHARD, | b. Bellefonte, Oct. 20, 1841; d. June 10, 1842; bur. Bellefonte graveyard.    |
| vi.      | MARY BLANCHARD, | b. Bellefonte, April 5, 1844; d. July 5, 1844; bur. Bellefonte graveyard.     |

By his second wife, Mary Patterson:

- |      |           |   |
|------|-----------|---|
| vii. | MARY ANN, | b. Auchentorlie, Aug. 10, 1849; d. April 23, 1850; bur. Spring Mills. |
|------|-----------|---|

22. PAY-DIRECTOR McKEAN BUCHANAN, U. S. N.—Born in Baltimore, July 27, 1798; but removed to Philadelphia, with his father's family in 1806; and two years after was left an orphan, as already related. McKean entered the University of Pennsylvania in 1813, in the class of 1817, where he remained about two years. He was nineteen years of age when Governor McKean died, naming him one of his residuary legatees. After leaving college he was for a time in mercantile life, in the counting-house of Asaph Stone, Esq., in Philadelphia. He then became the warrant clerk in the Navy Department at Washington, for three years, 1823–6, while waiting for his commission as a Purser in the navy, which he received from President Adams, August 21, 1826; the title being changed to paymaster June 22, 1860. He was immediately ordered to take passage in the frigate *Brandywine* to join the schooner *Dolphin* in the Pacific, and was subsequently transferred to the sloop of war *Vincennes*; and in her made a cruise to the South Pacific Islands, and round the world—the first American man-of-war that had done so. He returned to the United States in June, 1830. His next cruise was in the sloop of war *Falmouth*, Master Commander F. H. Gregory, squadron of Commodore John Downes, March, 1831, to February, 1834; an account of which cruise was published by one of the officers, entitled *Three Years in the Pacific*. Attached to the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, April, 1834, to Aug., 1835, and exchanged with another officer at the Pensacola Navy Yard, Aug., 1835, to September, 1837, and temporary navy agent, 1836. In January, 1839, he was again ordered to the Pacific squadron in the noted frigate *Constitution*, flagship of Commodore Claxton. His brother Franklin was also an officer of this ship. She sailed in April, from Norfolk for New York, where she took on board the Hon. Powhatan Ellis, United States Minister to Mexico, as passenger. During this cruise, Mr. Buchanan,

whose duty it was every Sunday to muster the men, knew every man by sight, and called off from memory the names of the whole four hundred in their proper order. The Constitution returned to Norfolk in November, 1841.<sup>1</sup>

During the Mexican War, Mr. Buchanan was again in the Pacific on his fourth cruise—a very singular circumstance. At this time he was attached to the sloop of war Dale, June, 1846, to August, 1849. While on the cruise this vessel had four captains. She sailed from New York under Mr. Buchanan's cousin, Commodore McKean, who was invalided and sent home from Panama. During the interim Lieutenant E. M. Yard had the command, until relieved by commander Thomas O. Selfridge, in May, 1847. He was wounded in the battle of Guaymas, and relinquished command to Lieutenant Yard. Commander John Rudd subsequently joined the ship, and brought her home, the Hon. Seth Barton, United States Chargé to Chili being passenger.

This vessel was actively engaged during the war: She captured a Mexican schooner, September 30, 1847; and the next day the town of Mulejé. From February to April 1848, she operated in the vicinity of Guaymas, capturing that place by an expedition on shore. The town of Mulejé was also again taken, and several launches; and January 30, 1848, the town of Cochori, killing and taking prisoners several of the enemy. At Guaymas Mr. Buchanan was made collector of customs in order to obtain the payment of money exacted by the United States from Mexico.<sup>2</sup>

Navy-yard Boston, Feb. 1851 to March 1853, after which Mr. Buchanan made Charlestown his future home. From July '54 to June '55, he was attached to the steam frigate San Jacinto; Captain C. K. Stribling, on a special cruise in European waters; and conveying to Spain the Hon. Pierre Soulé, the United States Minister. At the minister's request, Mr. Buchanan was detailed to accompany him to Madrid; it being thought that Mr. Soulé would not be favorably received by the Spanish Government. While in Madrid, Mr. Buchanan called to see his relative the Duke of Sotomayor, but the duke was at this time absent in England.

From Aug. '56 to March '58, he was attached to the steam

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<sup>1</sup> An account of this cruise was published by one of the sailors, entitled *Life in a Man-of-War, or Scenes in Old Ironsides*, Phila., 1841, J. Mercer and W. Gallop.

<sup>2</sup> *The United States Navy, 1775 to 1853*, Geo. F. Emmons, 1853, p. 80.

frigate Wabash, flagship of Commodore Hiram Paulding, commanding the Home squadron, which took prisoners General William Walker and filibusters, at San Juan del Norte, Nicaragua. Naval Inspector, Navy-yard, Boston, Oct. '58 to Sept. '61.

Paymaster Buchanan's last cruise was in the frigate Congress, September '61, to March 8, '62, during the late war, blockading James River at Newport News; and participated in the sanguinary engagement of March 8, 1862, with the Confederate squadron led by the iron-clad Virginia, (formerly the U. S. steam frigate Merrimac,) commanded by his own brother, Commodore, afterwards Admiral Franklin Buchanan. In this battle, familiar to all, Paymaster Buchanan commanded the berth-deck division of the Congress.

The Virginia, in the beginning of the action, passed the Congress, receiving a broadside from that vessel, and sank the Cumberland with her prow. The Congress, to avoid a like fate, ran herself aground, and the Virginia, being therefore obliged to use her guns, took up a raking position astern, where the Congress could bring to bear but two guns. These being soon disabled,<sup>1</sup> in the unequal contest,—one dismounted, and the muzzle of the other shot off, the ship having been set on fire several times by hot shot, and with her captain and one-fourth of her crew killed, after an action of three hours, it was decided to surrender. This was done in accordance with the maxim that where you can neither injure the enemy, nor better your own condition, it is your duty to surrender, to avoid needless loss of life. The Congress was then boarded by an officer from one of the Confederate steamers, who announced that the officers were prisoners, and that the crew would be paroled. But when forty men had been taken on board the steamer for the purpose of landing them, she was driven off by the batteries on shore, which had still kept up their fire. The officers and remainder of the crew then came on shore in the ship's boats; and the Congress blew up at midnight with a terrific explosion.

Dr. Shippen of the Congress in his autobiography, *Thirty Years at Sea*, relates that just before the stern guns were disabled there was a call for more powder; and none appearing, he went on the berth-deck to ascertain the cause. He saw that a shot from the Virginia had raked the whole line of men

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<sup>1</sup> See a letter from Edward Shippen, surgeon of the Congress, *Century Mag.*, xxx., 641, Aug., 1885.

passing "full boxes," and either killed or wounded the whole of them; a sufficient reason why there was no powder. And in his *Naval Battles Ancient and Modern*, 1883, also gives an account of the battle with additional particulars. "Nearly all the men in the powder division below, were killed by this raking fire. This division was in charge of Paymaster Buchanan, who was a brother of the captain of the Merrimac. Those now fared best whose duty kept them on the spar-deck. Even the wounded in the cockpit were killed."

An editorial article in the *Boston Post* of March 20, 1862, commenting upon this battle, concludes as follows:

"A letter from Washington [writer unknown] says 'the conduct of McKean Buchanan, Paymaster, United States Navy, on board the frigate Congress, during the attack of the Merrimac, is the subject of highest praise at the Navy Department. While the fight was progressing, although he knew his brother was in command of the Merrimac, he volunteered to Lieutenant Commanding Joseph B. Smith, for duty on either of the upper decks. He was ordered to take charge of the berth-deck, where he acted with marked gallantry throughout the action.'"<sup>1</sup>

Probably no action ever presented such disproportion of killed and wounded. It was too close quarters for a shot to wound:—it killed. On the Congress alone, of 434 souls, there were killed 94, wounded 29, of whom 8 or 10 died within a few days, prisoners 40, unharmed 271. The other vessels of the squadron at Hampton Roads were also engaged in the action, but the Congress and Cumberland bore the brunt of the battle. (Further accounts of this battle will be given in the succeeding biography.)

A few months before the battle, Paymaster Buchanan was placed on the retired list of the navy, in accordance with the act of Congress of December 21, 1861; which retired all officers over sixty-two years of age, or who had been forty-five years in the service.

On September 1st, 1862, Paymaster Buchanan was ordered to the practice ship Savannah at New York until September 1st, 1864; receiving ship Ohio, Boston, Oct. 1st, 1864, to Oct. 1st, 1867; special duty naval inspection office, Navy Yard, Boston, Aug., 1869, to Oct. 1st, 1870, which was his last service.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The substance of this paragraph is given in Lossing's *Pictorial Hist. of Civil War*, 1868, ii., 362, note.

<sup>2</sup> See Hamersly's *Record of Living Officers of the Navy*, revised ed., Aug.,

A short time before his death, Congress reorganized the staff corps of the navy, under act of March 3, 1871, whereby Paymaster Buchanan received the title of Pay Director, with the rank of commodore, assimilated to that of brigadier-general in the army. His services may be divided into sea service, 16 years, 0 months; shore duty, 16 years, 6 months; on leave, 12 years, 1 month. And during this long official life he has made seven cruises, sailed in nine vessels, served at eight shore stations, acted as judge advocate in several courts martial while in the Pacific 1847-9, made four cruises to the Pacific, passing once round the Cape of Good Hope, and *seven* times round Cape Horn; and has taken part in two wars. He was a man of exceedingly large acquaintance, it being a frequent remark of his, that he had met friends in every part of the world in which he had sailed. He was beloved and respected by all who knew him, prompt and accurate in the discharge of his duties, and in accounting for the millions that have passed through his hands during nearly half a century.

One incident in the official life of Pay Director Buchanan deserves especial mention, on account of its great importance. On the return home of the frigate *Constitution* to Norfolk, six sailors went on shore, and after getting indebted to their boardinghouse-keepers, cleared out, and applied to Pay Director Buchanan to send them their money. In the mean time the money in his hands had been attached by the boardinghouse-keepers; hence arose a case long desired by the legal officers of the government, as to whether the government could be sued. Pay Director Buchanan was ordered to pay the money to the men, and the U. S. district attorney took up the case for him in behalf of the government. It was lost in two courts, and appealed again to the Supreme Court of the United States, where, in 1846, the decisions below were reversed, and the matter settled for all time that the government cannot be sued. This is the principal case cited as authority upon this subject, and is entitled *Buchanan, plaintiff in error, vs. Alexander*.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Buchanan, some years after this, brought a case before

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1870, p. 300, in which a few dates are not quite correct. An obituary in *Amer. Annual Cycl.*, 1871, p. 571, contains several mistakes.

<sup>1</sup>4 Howard Reports, 20. It is cited in the *Digest of Decisions of the Second Comptroller of the Treasury*, 1865, p. 156. See also a history of the case, of which the above is an abridgment, in *The Continent Magazine*, iv., 126; also iii., 539; by the author of these pages, replying to a query.



the Supreme Court that was noted for the counsel employed. His attorney was his friend, the Hon. George M. Dallas, then Vice President of the United States; and on the other side, was the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, Attorney General of the United States. The newspapers tried to make political capital of the fact that so high an officer of the government as the Vice President, should act against the government; but he was acting professionally, and in his private capacity. (8 Howard Reports.)

During one of his cruises—probably in the Vincennes—the ship visited the Marquesas islands. These islands are mostly surrounded by deep water, the shore being of solid rock rising to lofty heights, showing a bold contour, when seen from a distance.<sup>1</sup> The current set the ship against this iron-bound coast, and she was with difficulty kept off by poles. On board of the vessel was a young Indian king nine years of age, accompanied by a number of high chiefs. The islanders—a fierce warlike tribe, and cannibals withal, who were at war with this king, stood upon the rocks crying *Matti matti typee*, drawing their hands across their throats, intimating the fate of those on board, should the vessel be wrecked. But a land breeze finally caught the royals and sky-scrapers, clearing the vessel from its perilous position.

Subsequently during this cruise, when the Vincennes was in China, Canton was the principal or only port open to foreigners at that time; and this strange man-of-war, being considered an unwelcome intruder, two war junks were ordered down the river to drive her off. They kept at a safe distance for a while, and soon returned, reporting that “they *had sunk* the Yankee bobbery ship.”<sup>2</sup> On the coast of South America, Paymaster Buchanan saw land, distant 180 miles, the snow-capped summit of Chimborazo, 80 miles inland, when the vessel was 100 miles at sea. During one of his earlier cruises he suffered greatly from rheumatism; nevertheless, he had a strong desire to accompany a party of officers who proposed ascending one of the volcanoes in South America. Being scarcely able to walk, he hired eight natives to carry him up on a litter. On the summit of this mountain, the party roasted eggs in the steam issuing from the fissures in the earth. They remained all night, and the ground being uncomfortably hot, the party could scarcely rest, even on the mats they had

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<sup>1</sup> *Typee*—A Peep at Polynesian Life, H. Melville, N. Y., 1847.

<sup>2</sup> Man-of-war.

brought with them. In the morning, however, Mr. Buchanan, much to his surprise, felt himself free from rheumatism, and walked down with the party, a distance of about twelve miles; and it is a fact that his rheumatism was permanently cured from this time.

While at the Pensacola navy yard, small change was so scarce, Paymaster Buchanan found great difficulty in paying the men employed; and therefore issued, in his private capacity, printed notes (what we now call fractional currency), signed by himself, of the value of  $6\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 25 and 50 cents, redeemable in sums of five dollars. They were readily accepted by all the inhabitants, and in fact rose to a premium. At the bank one day, Paymaster Buchanan said he would withdraw a portion from circulation, but was told: "We can't let you do it, sir; we need them for change." But few of them now remain, preserved as curiosities.

Paymaster Buchanan had one peculiarity that was sometimes a source of remark among his friends. Although open-hearted and generous in everything else, he disliked to see any waste water. He would say, "Use all you want, but do not waste any. If you want to drink a half tumbler, do not pour out a full tumbler and waste half of it." He attributed this to having been put on short allowance of water, when on long cruises in old time sailing vessels.

Paymaster Buchanan was married July 1, 1834, to Frances Selina Roberdeau, youngest daughter of the late Colonel Isaac Roberdeau, U. S. Army.

#### THE ROBERDEAU FAMILY.

Isaac Roberdeau, a French Huguenot who fled from France in 1685, took refuge on the island of St. Christopher, West Indies; and married Mary Cunyngham, daughter of Robert Cunyngham of Cayon, on that island, scion of a noble family, and descendant of Alexander first earl of Glencairn, ennobled by King James III. of Scotland in 1488; whose family dates back in an unbroken line to the year 1057. Mary Roberdeau came to Philadelphia, after her husband's death, with her three children, of whom her only son Daniel Roberdeau became a prominent advocate of American independence; a brigadier general of the Pennsylvania troops, member of the Continental Congress 1777-9, and signer of the Articles of Confederation. His son, Colonel Isaac Roberdeau, became a lieutenant-colonel

of topographical engineers of the United States Army, and chief of the bureau, which he organized in 1818. Colonel Roberdeau married Susan Blair, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Blair, and granddaughter of Dr. William Shippen the elder, of Philadelphia, member of the Continental Congress 1778-80, a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, and Vice-President of the American Philosophical Society, who died in Philadelphia November 4, 1801, aged 90 years.<sup>1</sup>

Pay Director Buchanan died at his residence in Charlestown, Massachusetts, March 18, 1871, of a slow decline from the shock his system sustained during the late unhappy war. He is buried in Mt. Auburn cemetery. The following extracts are from an obituary in the *Baltimore American*, author unknown:

"The press has lately recorded the death of this distinguished officer, which occurred on the 18th instant . . . At the time of his decease, he was one of the oldest paymasters in the navy. . . His age placed him on the retired list by the law of December 1861, but his commanding abilities in his department of the service kept him in active employment till within a few months of his death. In person and character, Mr. Buchanan was a man of noble presence. His courtly manner carried the impression of the highest qualities of courage and honor, blended with gentleness and kindly affection truly feminine."

His widow removed to Washington, D. C., in the fall of 1872, where she now resides. The children of Pay Director and Mrs. Buchanan are:

57. i. ROBERDEAU, b. Nov. 22, 1839, Phila.

58. ii. LÆTITIA McKEAN, b. Dec. 24, 1842, Brooklyn (Mrs. Fife).

23. ADMIRAL FRANKLIN BUCHANAN.—Born in Baltimore, September 17, 1800. Entered the navy at the early age of fourteen, receiving his appointment as midshipman, January 28, 1815; and the following April was ordered to the frigate *Java*, Commodore O. H. Perry, passing the next five years at sea in various vessels. After a few months on shore, he was solicited to accept the appointment of mate in a mer-

<sup>1</sup>For the Roberdeau family, see *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, 1876, by the author of these pages; Browning's *Americans of Royal Descent*, Phil., 1883, Pedigree xl; and *America Heraldica*, N. Y., 1887, p. 76, plate xi., giving the names and arms of families in this country before the year 1800. For the Shippen family: Balch's *Letters and Papers Relating to the Provincial History of Pennsylvania*, 1855; *Genealogy of the Descendants of Dr. William Shippen the Elder*, by the author of these pages, 1877; Keith's *Provincial Councillors of Pa.*, 1883; *Pa. Mag.*, i., 109 *et seq.*; *America Heraldica*.

chant ship bound for India. So much sea service as he had already seen, gave him an experience beyond his years, and this position as mate was tendered to him before he was of age. (February 21, 1821.) The Navy Department gave him permission to accept it, and leave for one year. The cruise, however, lasted fifteen months; and on his return he was ordered to the Philadelphia Navy Yard. He remained here but a few months; his active and energetic temperament preferring duty at sea to the inactivity of a shore station. He cruised three years and a half in the West India squadron, as acting-master from December 20, 1822; and subsequently as acting lieutenant, from December 5, 1823.

In 1823, he was a passed midshipman. This was not a separate grade at that time, although it became so subsequently; he had passed his examination, and was ready for promotion at the next vacancy. He received his commission as lieutenant, January 13, 1825, during the latter cruise.

Two months after his return home, the Navy Department showed the esteem in which lieutenant Buchanan was held, by placing him in command of the frigate *Baltimore*, recently built for the Emperor of Brazil. These complimentary orders, partaking of a semi-diplomatic character, were dated July 31, 1826, and directed him to take the vessel to Rio Janeiro. He was at this time not quite twenty-six years of age. On his return to the United States, he was ordered to the sloop of war *Natchez*, in the West Indies: then to the frigate *Peacock*, one of the vessels of Commodore Wilkes Exploring Expedition in the South Pacific ocean; then again to the *Natchez* in the Mediterranean, and soon after transferred to the *Constellation*;—a continuous cruise of four years and a half. At the expiration of this cruise in November 1831, Mr. Buchanan had been in the service nearly seventeen years, and on active duty the whole time, except fourteen months, broken into short periods of a few months at a time. He had therefore earned a well merited rest, and was allowed leave for a little less than a year; when he was ordered to the naval rendezvous at Philadelphia, for two months; and then in February 1833, as first lieutenant to the line of battle ship *Delaware*, bearing the broad pennant of Commodore D. T. Patterson.

This vessel carried as passenger, the Hon. Edward Livingston, United States Minister to France. The king, Louis Phillipe, remembering that he had been well treated by Americans when an exile, invited the minister and officers of the

Delaware to dine with him. Among those who accepted the invitation was lieutenant Buchanan. General Simon Bernard, now minister of war, was also one of the guests. He had been Napoleon's chief engineer; and when a refugee in this country entered the United States army, became chief engineer, and designed all the earlier important forts on the Atlantic coast. He also renewed his acquaintance with several of the American officers. It was remarked after the dinner, that the American officers, as guests of the king, were allowed to be seated; while General Bernard and the other high officers of the realm, being subjects, were obliged to stand in the presence of royalty. Lieutenant Buchanan was subsequently transferred to the frigate *United States*, and returned home in her.

He was then ordered on special duty, and also to the receiving ship at Baltimore; and in April 1839, joined the noted frigate *Constitution*, flag-ship of Commodore Claxton, and made a cruise in the Pacific. He was subsequently transferred to the *Falmouth*, in which he returned home.

Promoted to be Commander, September 8, 1841, and in April, 1842, ordered to the command of the steam frigate *Mississippi*, in the West Indies, and transferred after a few months, to the command of the sloop of war *Vincennes*.

During his cruise in the latter vessel, commander Buchanan was in a position to render aid to two British merchant ships in distress, the *Cybele* and *Cato*, for which he received the thanks of the British consul at Galveston, Texas.<sup>1</sup>

#### ORGANIZES THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

The want of proper instruction for the younger officers of the navy, in seamanship, gunnery, naval tactics, and other technical branches, had been long felt among the older officers of the service; but no officer had the authority to take action in the matter upon his own responsibility. When George Bancroft became Secretary of the Navy in March, 1845, he recognized the necessity of a naval school. He was no ordinary author in matters of education, having graduated at Harvard University, and also taken a degree at Gottingen; and had at this time won a reputation in literature. "Commander Franklin Buchanan had already been selected by the secretary to be the head of the new institution. Born in Baltimore in 1800, this officer had entered the service at the age of fifteen, and

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<sup>1</sup> *Nat. Intelligencer*, June 26, 1844.

had risen to the grade of commander, with a high reputation for ability in his profession as a skillful, energetic and systematic organizer. He had had several commands at sea before he was called to this new duty ; and his selection by the secretary was itself an evidence of his fitness for the position."

In the *Historical Sketch of the United States Naval Academy*, Professor J. R. Soley, 1876, from which the above extracts are taken, the credit of devising a system of education for the new school is given to George Bancroft. But the letter of the Secretary to Commander Buchanan does not bear out so broad a statement. The letter, dated August 7, 1845, is quite long, and its directions general in their character, leaving all the details to Commander Buchanan's judgment: the professors and instructors who were then scattered are to be collected together; the discipline and morality should be equal to that of any college in the country; that the powers conferred on him (Commander Buchanan) by the laws of the country were sufficient for the purpose. He was authorized to select from the twenty-two professors and three teachers of languages; also from the chaplains, and others junior to himself. "Having thus expressed to you," the letter concludes, "some general views, I leave you with such assistance as you may require, to prepare and lay before this department, for its approbation, a plan for the organization of the naval school at Fort Severn, Annapolis."

It is here seen that the whole plan of the school with all its details is left to the judgment of Commander Buchanan. Before receiving the secretary's letter, he had been ordered to report himself at the Department, under date of July 23, 1845, for the purpose of conferring with Mr. Bancroft upon this subject. Doubtless, the general plan, and perhaps the details, were then partly discussed, and Mr. Bancroft's views made known. But it cannot be denied that an officer who had spent thirty years in the navy was more familiar with the needs and requirements of the service, than a civilian who had presided over the Navy Department but four months. To Mr. Bancroft belongs the credit of *founding* the school; but the *organization*, and the plan of instruction, with all the details, according to the above letter were left to the judgment of Commander Buchanan:

Pursuant to the secretary's letter, Commander Buchanan submitted a plan for the establishment of the Naval School, August 14th, and the same day was appointed Superintendent

of the new school. Fort Severn at Annapolis, with the land surrounding, was transferred from the War Department; and here, on the 10th of October following, the school was formally opened. "Commander Buchanan was a man of inflexible will, and a stern disciplinarian, and his hands were strengthened by the prompt and cordial support of the Navy Department . . . The character of his administration is shadowed forth in his opening address. The first lesson of the young officer is subordination; and it was of paramount importance that the first administration of the school should exact this, if nothing else. Two years of lax discipline at the start, in the period when the tone of a school is set, and school traditions are fixed for all time, would have been a lasting element of weakness, from which the academy was saved by the strong government of Buchanan." (Ibid.)

War with Mexico now commenced, and Commander Buchanan asked for active sea duty, which the department granted, detaching him from the Naval School March 2, 1847. His influence over the Naval School does not however terminate with his detachment; for he was afterwards several times appointed a member of the Examining Board. And in September, 1849, was a member of a board of officers to revise the plan and regulations of the School, namely, Commanders W. B. Shubrick, Franklin Buchanan, S. F. Dupont, Geo. P. Upshur, Surgeon Ruschenberger, Professor William Chauvenet and Captain Henry Brewerton, U. S. A. The course of study was changed from five to seven years, including a course of three years, and the name was changed to the Naval Academy, the corps of professors enlarged, and other minor changes suggested. The next year other changes were proposed which were referred to the Board of Visitors for 1851, viz.—Commodore David Connor, Captain S. L. Breeze, Commanders C. K. Stribling, A. Bigelow, Franklin Buchanan, and Lieutenant T. T. Craven. The principal change made was a consecutive course of four years' study.

In the *History of the Naval Academy*, by E. C. Marshall, it is stated:

"Captain Franklin Buchanan, the first Superintendent of the Naval Academy, has always borne the highest character as an accomplished officer. All parties of that day, the Secretary of the Navy, the public journals, and others, bear testimony of the skill, ability and success with which he discharged the difficult duties of his office."

The several rows of buildings for the quarters of the officers and other purposes are known by the name of the Superintendent at the time they were erected. Buchanan Row extends across the academy grounds, between the library and the Superintendent's house.

#### MEXICAN WAR.

Upon being detached from the Naval Academy at his own request, as related on the previous page, Commander Buchanan was the same day ordered to the command of the sloop-of-war *Germantown*, in the Home Squadron, and participated in the attack upon the castle of San Juan d' Ulloa, and the capture of Vera Cruz. In the expedition against Tuspan, April 18, which consisted of the steamers and detachments from the sailing vessels, Commander Buchanan participated with his crew from the *Germantown*, resulting in the capture of the place. The squadron also took possession of Alvarado, which was abandoned and the guns spiked on their approach. In June an expedition against Tobasco consisted of the small steamers and detachments from the sailing vessels in boats, in which Commander Buchanan also participated. The river being obstructed, the forces landed in the face of the enemy, and made a bold dash up the steep banks of the river, dragging with them ten field pieces; then marched to the city and captured the place.

Two large cannon balls, captured by Commander Buchanan during this war, were brought home, and ornament the gateposts of his home in Maryland.

#### PERRY'S JAPAN EXPEDITION.

After the close of the war, Captain Buchanan was in command of the *Baltimore* Rendezvous, and a member of several boards of officers, for about three years, when in March, 1852, he was ordered to take passage in the steam frigate *Mississippi*, to Europe, and proceed to China to command the steam frigate *Susquehanna*, one of Commodore Perry's noted Japan Expedition. Upon his arrival in Japan, Commodore Perry transferred his flag to the *Susquehanna*, which made Commander Buchanan the next most prominent officer of the squadron. Commodore Perry was the bearer of a letter from President Fillmore to the Emperor of Japan, which was delivered to the Governor of Uraga with much ceremony.



Commander Buchanan had command of the expedition upon this occasion, and as the captain's gig touched the shore, he was the first person in the squadron to land in Japan.<sup>1</sup> The arrangements for delivering the letter were made by Captain Buchanan with the Governor of Uraga, on board the *Susquehanna*, and the conversation narrated with illustrations in the above work. (iii, 243.) He also commanded the escort of about 500 officers and men, when Commodore Perry received the Chief Commissioner's reply to the President's letter.

Commodore Perry in order to give impress of his high rank and power, in imitation of the Japanese kept himself much secluded, and was usually carried about on shore in a closed sedan chair; regarding which Captain Buchanan would relate an amusing story. During one of the expeditions, the officers were ordered to appear in full dress uniform buttoned to the throat, with chapeau, sword, etc. The weather being exceedingly hot they questioned among themselves how they could stand it; when Captain Buchanan said, "I think I can arrange it for you." He then went to Commodore Perry, and told him that "if all the officers should wear their full dress, trimmed with embroidery and gold lace, minor distinctions of uniform will be unnoticed, and the Japanese will not know which is the high officer; seeing so many, they will think no one is very exalted. But if you wear your full uniform, buttoned up to the throat, and the other officers their undress uniform, leaving their coats unbuttoned, the Japanese will readily see who is the high officer." "That is so!" replied Commodore Perry, who at once countermanded his former order, much to the delight of the junior officers; who nevertheless pitied the "high officer" in his full dress coat.

Bayard Taylor, the traveller, was at Hong Kong while the *Susquehanna* was there, and wishing to join this noted expedition, was appointed to a minor position by Captain Buchanan. In his *Visit to India, China and Japan in 1853* (N. Y., 1869), he relates many interesting incidents of his cruise. The Japanese made false forts out of black canvas, not knowing that the ship's spy-glasses would at once detect their character; and it was amusing to hear the quartermasters report to Captain Buchanan, "Another dungaree fort thrown up, sir!" Regarding the captain he adds, "We found in Captain Bu-

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<sup>1</sup>*Perry's Japan Expedition*, 3 vols., published by Congress, iii., 253-4.

chanan, the commander, all that his reputation as a gentleman and a brave and gallant officer led us to expect."

The *Susquehanna* returned to the United States in March, 1855; and just before arriving in New York there was a cry of *man overboard*. It proved to be the favorite monkey! Knowing him to be the pet of the whole crew, Captain Buchanan had the vessel at once hove to, and called away the boats, which were soon manned with willing hands; but the monkey could not be found.

In June, 1855, Commander Buchanan was appointed one of a board of officers, organized under the act of Congress of February 28, 1855, to promote the efficiency of the navy. This was the first retiring Board for the navy, usually called the *Board of Fifteen*. It was composed of the following officers: Captains W. B. Shubrick, M. C. Perry, C. S. McCauley, C. K. Stribling, A. Bigelow; Commanders G. J. Pendergrast, Franklin Buchanan, S. F. Dupont, Samuel Barron, A. H. Foote; Lieutenants J. S. Missroon, R. L. Page, S. W. Godon, W. L. Maury, James S. Biddle.

The members of the Board were officers whose general reputation and standing was the highest in the service; for they were to sit in judgment upon their brother officers. They were ordered to deliberate in secret, and to keep no record of their proceedings. The Board was dissolved September 13, 1855, after recommending 201 officers to be placed on leave, on furlough, or to be dropped; which finding was carried out on the above named day. This action caused widespread discontent throughout the country; various newspapers took up the matter in behalf of the officers; and the representatives in Congress were besieged with petitions for a reversal of their action. Nevertheless, the Board was sustained by the Navy Department; but by an act of Congress, the Department was obliged to order courts of inquiry, which examined 108 cases, reversing the decision in 62 of them. Others were changed by the President.

Commander Buchanan was soon after this promoted September 14, 1855, to be a Captain, then the highest grade in the service; a *Commodore* being a Captain, so called by courtesy only, while commanding a squadron.

In May, 1859, Captain Buchanan was ordered to the command of the Washington Navy Yard, one of the most desirable positions for a naval officer. He was relieved from duty here, April 22, 1861, just as the civil war was breaking out; and

retired to his home in Maryland. His sympathies were with the south, and the next month, hearing that his state Maryland had seceded, he resigned his commission. Finding the next day that Maryland had not seceded, he wrote to the Department to recall his resignation; but both letters were disregarded, and he was dismissed May 14th, to date from April 22. The Navy Department adopted this course with all officers to show their disapprobation. When an officer resigned to take sides with the south, his resignation was not accepted, and he was dismissed. The anti-dating of his dismissal from April 22 is certainly of very questionable legality.<sup>1</sup>

#### ENTERS THE CONFEDERATE NAVY.

On the 5th of September, 1861, Captain Buchanan cast his lot with the southern cause, by entering the Confederate navy as a captain, the same grade he had held in the old service. He was placed in charge of the Bureau of Orders and Detail in the navy department at Richmond. His attention was early directed to the building of gunboats. The large steam frigate Merrimac, which had been scuttled and sunk at Norfolk, when the navy yard was abandoned by the naval authorities, was raised and had been razeed and iron plated; she was armed with an iron prow, with six IX-inch Dahlgren guns, and two 32-pounder Brooke rifled guns in broadside, also two VII inch Brooke pivot guns at bow and stern; and her name changed to the Virginia. The steamer Patrick Henry, 12 guns, commander John R. Tucker; steamer Jamestown, two guns, lieutenant-commander J. N. Barney; and gunboat Teaser, one gun, lieutenant-commanding W. A. Webb, were up the James River ready to co-operate; the Beaufort, lieutenant-commanding W. H. Parker, and Raleigh, lieutenant-commanding J. W. Alexander, each one gun, were at Norfolk, a total of 27 guns.<sup>2</sup>

To the command of this squadron Captain Franklin Buchanan was appointed, February 24, 1862, as flag officer, hoisting his flag on the Virginia.

#### THE BATTLE IN HAMPTON ROADS.

At eleven o'clock on Saturday, the 8th of March, 1862, the

<sup>1</sup> The dates and facts above given, unless otherwise stated, are mainly taken from the records of the Navy Department, and were first made use of by the author in preparing the obituary of Admiral Buchanan, in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, xxviii., 364, July, 1874.

<sup>2</sup> Report, Adm. Buchanan.

Virginia, accompanied by the Beaufort and Raleigh, steamed out from Norfolk. The federal squadron at Hampton Roads, lying off Fort Monroe, was taken completely by surprise, and signalled her approach at a quarter before one. The Virginia headed up the James River for Newport News, where lay the wooden sailing frigates Congress, 50 guns, and Cumberland, 30 guns. Passing the Congress and receiving her broadside, the Virginia struck the Cumberland with her prow, causing that ship to sink in a few moments, with about 150 of her crew. Meanwhile the Congress, seeing the fate of the Cumberland, had set her sails, and with the assistance of a steam tug had run herself aground. The Virginia could not approach her in the shoal water, and took up a position astern, pouring in a aking fire. The Patrick Henry and other vessels had in the meanwhile come down James River and were also now engaging the Congress. The Virginia soon disabled the only two guns the Congress could bring to bear upon her, whereupon she hoisted the white flag.

Flag Officer Buchanan then ordered lieutenant Parker to go alongside, take prisoners the officers and wounded, and let the rest escape. This officer boarded the Congress as directed, in the Beaufort, but the steamer was driven off by the batteries on shore, which had still kept up their fire. Commodore Buchanan seeing this, opened fire again on the Congress with three guns, using incendiary shot. The white flag was flying from the Congress during this time. This circumstance was afterwards unfavorably commented upon by both sides. The Virginia claimed the Congress as a lawful prize, and that her officers were prisoners of war; and the Federals blamed the Virginia for firing when the white flag was flying.

Flag Officer Buchanan towards the close of the action appeared outside of the iron plating of the Virginia, and was wounded by a Minie ball from one of the batteries on shore. His wound was a compound fracture of the right leg.

In the beginning of the battle, the other vessels of the Federal squadron at Hampton Roads got under weigh for Newport News, about eight miles distant. The steam-frigate Minnesota, 40 guns, grounded when within a mile and a half and was hard aground for two days. The Roanoke, 40 guns, had broken her shaft some time before and also ran aground. The St. Lawrence sailing frigate in being towed up likewise got aground. The two former were sister ships of the Virginia before she was burned at Norfolk:

After leaving the Congress, the Virginia tried to reach the Minnesota, but could not venture in the shoal water, and engaged her at long range; several shots taking effect, one of which crippled her foremast. The day now closing, the Virginia steamed back to Norfolk.

The Minnesota threw overboard six of her heavy 9-inch guns, to lighten the ship, and transferred most of her stores to the Whitehall, gunboat, and then floated; had she not done so, it was the intention to have destroyed her at once. The Whitehall however took fire from a shot or some other cause and was burned to the water's edge. The gunboat Oregon received a shot in her boiler and blew up. The Zouave also received serious damage and was put out of action.

At Norfolk, Flag Officer Buchanan was taken to the hospital with the other wounded, and was not in command the next day when the Virginia engaged the Monitor; the command then devolved upon lieutenant Catesby ap Roger Jones.

Thus had Commodore Franklin Buchanan the honor of commanding and manœuvring the first iron-clad vessel engaged in actual battle. Naval warfare was revolutionized from that day. Two things were demonstrated: that iron-plated vessels would mainly compose the navies of the future; and that the strength and calibre of guns must be proportionately increased. These facts were established by the Virginia alone, in the first day's battle, and are quite independent of the kind or type of armored vessel which established them.<sup>1</sup> The Monitor the next day merely confirmed what the Virginia had inaugurated. Besides this, the Monitor introduced a new type of war vessel; but so did the Virginia—a type of another kind.

The news of this battle, was THE GREAT excitement of the whole war: nothing before or since, began to approach to it. It disarranged the plans of the military leaders; it filled the country with apprehension; and preparations were made for the defense of the principal harbors, New York, Boston, Washington, and other places. General Wood, commanding Fort Monroe, telegraphed to Washington that probably both the Minnesota and the St. Lawrence would be captured, adding "it was thought that the Merrimac, Jamestown and Yorktown, will pass the fort to-night." Meanwhile that officer admitted that should the Merrimac prefer to attack the fort it would be only a question of a few days when it must be abandoned.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Soley's *Blockade and the Cruisers*, 1883, p. 74.

<sup>2</sup> *Twelve Decisive Battles of the War*, Swinton, p. 245.

And this he says, of the largest and perhaps the strongest fortification in the United States!

The Confederacy was elated in a corresponding degree. Congress was in session, and passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That the thanks of Congress are due and are hereby cordially tendered to Captain Buchanan and all under his command, for their unsurpassed gallantry, as displayed in the recent successful attack upon the naval force of the enemy in Hampton Roads.*

"Approved March 12, 1862."

Congress soon after this, by act of April 21, 1862, reorganized the navy, and created the grade of *Admiral*, allowing four such officers, who "shall be appointed solely for gallant or meritorious conduct during the war." To this grade Commodore Buchanan was appointed August 21, 1862, to take rank from that day; being promoted over the heads of all his superiors, and made full Admiral, thus becoming the senior officer of the Confederate Navy<sup>2</sup>.

Flag Officer Buchanan's report to the Secretary of the Navy dated March 27, 1862, may be found in the *War of the Rebellion Official Records*, Ser. I., vol. ix., p. 8. Secretary Mallory in transmitting this report to Congress, says: "The daring courage and consummate professional ability of Flag Officer Buchanan and his associates, achieved the most memorable victory which naval annals record."<sup>3</sup>

Jefferson Davis writes of this battle and the Virginia:<sup>4</sup>

"Her commander, Captain (afterwards Admiral) Franklin Buchanan, with the wisdom of age, and the experience of sea service from his boyhood, combined the daring and enterprise of youth; and with him was lieutenant Catesby ap R. Jones, who had been specially in charge of the battery and otherwise thoroughly acquainted with the ship."

Not only his friends in the south but his former enemies in the north have given to Admiral Buchanan much praise for his bravery in this battle. Admiral David D. Porter, now the ranking officer in the United States Navy, remarks:<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Statutes at Large, Public Laws of the Confederate States*, 1864, p. 53.

<sup>2</sup> *Confed. Navy Register*, Jan. 1, 1864. See Appendix II., No. 23.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7. See also *Southern Histor. Soc. Papers*, vol. vii., 305. Also *Report of the Naval Committee, H. R. 48th Cong., 1st sess., Report No. 1725*, containing extracts from official papers on both sides.

<sup>4</sup> *Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*, N. Y., 1881, p. 196.

<sup>5</sup> *Naval History of the Civil War*, N. Y., 1886, p. 120.

"When this formidable vessel was completed the name of the 'Virginia' was bestowed upon her, and she was placed under the command of Flag Officer Franklin Buchanan, who had resigned from the United States Navy, where he had reaped the highest rewards that could be bestowed in time of peace. He was a man of undoubted courage, and his professional ability was of the first order. Buchanan was fortunate in surrounding himself with excellent officers, men capable of performing any naval duty, and it may be remarked that no commander was ever better seconded by his subordinates."<sup>1</sup>

Professor Soley says of the Virginia and her commander, "She was under the command of Franklin Buchanan, whose ability and energy had won him a high place in the esteem of his brother officers in the navy before the war." *Lossing's Civil War in America*, gives a wood cut of Admiral Buchanan, and states that he had been "an experienced officer of the National Navy."

Foreign officers likewise have written of this battle. The Prince de Joinville<sup>2</sup> gives a correct account of the Virginia's movements, and adds, "a ball struck her brave and skillful commander, Captain Buchanan." Likewise the Comte de Paris<sup>3</sup> mentions "the brave Buchanan who was severely wounded in the thigh." Lt. Col. Fletcher,<sup>4</sup> of the Scots Fusilier Guards, notes the small number of killed and wounded on the Virginia. "Among the latter," he says, "was her brave commander, Captain Buchanan, who had evinced great courage and skill in manœuvring his vessel." The sinking of the Cumberland forms the theme of a poem by Longfellow, entitled *The Cumberland*, indexed under *Birds of Passage*, Flight 2d.

In an interesting magazine article<sup>5</sup>—*The First Fight of Iron Clads*, John Taylor Wood, a former officer of the Virginia in this contest, remarks of his commander, "Commodore Franklin Buchanan was appointed to the command—an energetic and high-toned officer, who combined with daring courage great professional skill, standing deservedly at the head of his profession. . . . Under him were as capable a set of officers as ever were brought together in one ship. But of man-of-

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<sup>1</sup> *The Blockade and the Cruisers*, 1883.

<sup>2</sup> *Army of the Potomac*, N. Y., 1862, p. 30, 31.

<sup>3</sup> *History of the Civil War in America*, 1876, p. 600.

<sup>4</sup> *History of the American War*, London, 1866, 3 vols. i. 326.

<sup>5</sup> *Century Magazine*, xix, p. 739, *et seq.*; March, 1885.

war's men or sailors we had scarcely any." This article is illustrated, and contains an excellent full page wood cut likeness of Admiral Buchanan and Commodore Tattnall, from a photograph taken at Savannah, during the war.

Flag officer Josiah Tattnall now succeeded to the command of the Virginia, March 29; but early in April, Norfolk was evacuated by the Confederate troops; and being unable to take the ship up the James River to Richmond, on account of the vessel drawing twenty-three feet of water, he had no other alternative but to destroy her. This was a disappointment to the Confederacy, and Commodore Tattnall asked for a court of inquiry. The court which convened July 5, consisted of Captains Lawrence Rousseau, Franklin Buchanan, Sidney Smith Lee (a brother of Gen. R. E. Lee,) and George N. Hollins, six commanders, two lieutenants, and Robert Ould judge advocate. Flag officer Tattnall was honorably acquitted.

#### IN COMMAND AT MOBILE.

When sufficiently recovered from his wound for active duty, Admiral Buchanan was placed in command of the naval defenses of Mobile. He was in command here, according to the Navy Register, as early as January 1, 1863. In June of this year he had under his command the ram Baltic flag ship, and gunboats Morgan, Gaines and Selma. The powerful ram Tennessee was ready for service in May, 1864, and became the flag-ship.

This vessel was one of the most powerful ever constructed. Her length was 209 feet, her casemate was plated with six inches of iron, with a thick wood backing; she had ten ports and four broadside 6 inch guns, and two pivot  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inch, one each at the forward and after ends of the casemate, which could be used as broadside guns. Her steering apparatus, however, proved to be her only weak point.

Illustrative of Admiral Buchanan's character and discipline the following incident was related to the author by a Confederate officer: The government had ordered that each ship which ran the blockade should take one-third of her cargo of cotton, to be delivered to the Confederate agent at Havana. A foreign merchant declined to agree to this condition. Admiral Buchanan refused to let the ship depart, and ordered one of his steamers to sink her if she made the attempt. Both the Secretaries of War and Navy telegraphed to let her go; but he was obdurate



until the captain had given the required security ; and not till then did he give the permit to depart.

Just before the Federal attack on Fort Fisher, at Wilmington, N. C., General Whiting commanding at that point issued the following order :

WILMINGTON, N. C., Oct. 29, 1864.

The new work on Confederate Point, to be manned and commanded by the navy, will in honor of the admiral, be known as Battery Buchanan.

W. H. C. WHITING, Major General.

#### BATTLE IN MOBILE BAY.

During the summer of 1864, preparations were made for the attack on the defences of Mobile. Vice Admiral Farragut's fleet consisted of twenty-five vessels ; viz., fourteen steamers lashed two and two together, and one barge, with four monitors, which were to run past the forts ; six wooden vessels were anchored south of Fort Morgan to divert its fire ; besides which, six other vessels acted in concert by guarding Grant's Pass ; in all thirty-one vessels. At 5.45 A. M., August 5, 1864, this squadron advanced ; the forts opened fire at six minutes past seven o'clock ; but the squadron passed the obstructions and entered the harbor ; one monitor, the *Tecumseh*, was sunk by a torpedo. At 7.20 being within range of the Confederate gunboats, they opened fire. The Confederate ram *Tennessee*, Admiral Buchanan, dashed at the flag ship *Hartford*, but failed to ram her, and after attacking other vessels and passing through the Federal line, returned to her anchorage under the guns of the fort. The Federal squadron then gave chase to the smaller Confederate vessels : the *Selma* was captured ; the *Morgan* escaped up the bay ; the *Gaines* also escaped, but was injured and subsequently destroyed. Only one Confederate vessel now remained ; and after the Federal fleet of fourteen steamers and three monitors had anchored, Admiral Buchanan, notwithstanding the fearful odds against him, boldly steamed out to attack this fleet. It was one vessel against seventeen—six guns against one hundred and fifty-eight. Admiral Farragut signalled to attack the *Tennessee* with bows and guns. The Federal fleet kept moving around her, making it difficult for the *Tennessee* to ram any one of them, and she was thus subjected to the concentrated fire of the whole fleet. The *Tennessee* was rammed by the *Monongahela*, but partially avoided it. The *Tennessee's* shots pierced through and

through, while the Monongahela's glanced off. The Lackawanna next struck her, then the Hartford, and the two latter vessels collided, damaging the flagship. The monitor Manhattan, firing 15 inch shot of 440 lbs., struck her casemate. The two other monitors were firing 11 inch solid shot, one of which entered the stern port, jamming the rudder chain. The smoke stack was also shot away, and the vessel filled with steam and gas, so that the men could hardly breathe. Admiral Buchanan at this time was wounded in the right leg by a splinter while freeing a gun from a shattered port shutter; and the ship being unmanageable from the loss of her rudder chain, had not fired a gun for fifteen minutes. Further resistance was useless, and she then surrendered. The Ossipee was at this moment approaching at full speed, and the Monongahela and Lackawanna were bearing down on her. The engagement had lasted from 7 to 10 A. M.

Admiral Farragut in his official report, August 12, 1864, calls this "one of the fiercest naval combats on record." And in his report September 4, 1864, says of Admiral Buchanan rather savagely, though still to his professional credit, "He, though a rebel and traitor to the Government that had raised and educated him, had always been considered one of its ablest officers, and no one knew him better, or appreciated his character more highly than myself, and, I may add, felt even more proud of overcoming him in such a contest, if for no other reason than to show the world that ramming and sinking a helpless frigate at her anchors, is a very different affair from ramming steamers when handled by officers of good capacity."<sup>1</sup>

Commander Foxall A. Parker, U. S. N., says:—"While the gallantry of Buchanan's attack upon the Union fleet must be acknowledged, it was certainly most quixotic to make it." He

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<sup>1</sup> Admiral Farragut seems to overlook the maxim that all is fair in war. If a naval commander can succeed in taking his enemy by surprise, or at anchor, it is not to his discredit to do so. The Cumberland was not a "helpless" frigate, except in an encounter with such a vessel as the Virginia; and further, after sinking the Cumberland, Admiral Buchanan could not ram any other of the larger vessels in Hampton Roads, for they were all aground—four of them; and the Virginia drew too much water to venture near. Admiral Buchanan was wounded and not in command during the Merrimac and Monitor contest the next day. The last clause above quoted savors either of vanity for his own achievements, or else is a slur against all the gallant officers in Hampton Roads. It would have been better if the whole paragraph had never been written. No commander will ever act up to these sentiments, but will take all the advantage he can over his enemies. Admiral Farragut himself did not act up to them when he allowed his vessels to ram and bear down upon the Tennessee as she "lay like a log, *helpless*."

likens it to the charge of the Light Brigade. Captain Johnston hauled down the Tennessee's flag, "It had been raised in triumph, it was lowered without dishonor."<sup>1</sup>

Lt. Col. Fletcher remarks that when the Tennessee was hotly beset, "Still the brave vessel fought on: the shocks from the various concussions made it almost impossible for the crew to keep their feet or to work the guns; but old Buchanan—a worthy opponent to Farragut,—had no thought of surrender. He continued the contest, until he fell severely wounded and the Tennessee,—becoming unmanageable and unable to reply to the fire of the enemy,—lay like a log, helpless under the attacks of the many vessels that surrounded her. Nothing more could be done, further resistance was hopeless, and she surrendered."<sup>2</sup>

A detailed account of this battle, illustrated with diagrams, is given in the *Treatise on Coast Defenses* by Von Schlieka, London, 1868, dedicated to Prince Adolphus of Prussia. The author remarks that "Admiral James [should be Franklin] Buchanan, by his daring bravery, had greatly endeared himself to the people of the south." He states, that one of the land batteries near Mobile was named Battery Buchanan.

Other published accounts of the battle are mainly repetitions of those quoted above, more or less minute as to details. In *Scribner's Magazine*, xiii, 539, for Feb., 1877, a writer points out various historical mistakes regarding this battle that have been made by artists, poets, and others.

Admiral Buchanan's official report of the battle may be found in the *Southern Historical Society Papers*, vol. vi. 220. He corrects a mistake in Admiral Farragut's report that his sword was not delivered up on board the Hartford, but on board the Tennessee, to an officer sent by Admiral Farragut. In the same volume, page 43, *et seq.*, is a review of Captain Parker's book above quoted, by Gen. Dabney H. Maury, who remarks; "Ah! had that luckless rudder chain not have jammed, Buchanan, not Farragut, might have been the great naval hero of the war."

After the battle had ended, Admiral Farragut sent Admiral Buchanan and all the wounded of both sides to Pensacola in the Metacomet, permission to pass the forts being given by General Page, commanding fort Morgan. Admiral Buchanan remained in the naval hospital there until the latter part of

<sup>1</sup> *Battle in Mobile Bay*, 1878.

<sup>2</sup> *History of the American War*, London, 1866, 3 vols. iii, 408.

November, when he was sent north, with his two aids, arriving at Fortress Monroe November 27th, and was placed in Fort Lafayette, New York harbor; he was able to walk on crutches at this time, but finally recovered wholly from both his wounds, with even no trace of lameness. The Confederate government wished his exchange; but holding no officer of equal rank, it was refused, and at the close of December it was stated that no further exchange would be made until the United States were willing to exchange Admiral Buchanan. It was finally acceded to, and he passed through Baltimore February 20, 1865, on his way south.

General Lee's surrender took place soon after, and the Confederacy fell to pieces, the various armies surrendering one after another. Admiral Buchanan also, surrendered himself at Mobile, May 20th. He was sent to Fort Monroe and paroled. He then returned to his home and family on the eastern shore of Maryland.

The Confederate Navy Register of January 1, 1864, gives Admiral Buchanan's services up to that date as follows:—sea service, 1 year 2 months, shore duty, 10 months, and his present duty then, Commandant at Mobile. The following tabular statement is compiled chiefly from the records of the Navy Department, (by permission,) and from the Confederate Navy Register:

#### ADMIRAL FRANKLIN BUCHANAN

##### Recapitulation of his naval services in detail.

Appointed midshipman in the navy, January 28, 1815.

Frigate Java, Com. O. H. Perry, Mediterranean . . . . .	Mid.	April, 1815	to	April, 1817
Brig Prometheus, European Squadron Franklin, 74 guns, Flag ship Com. Charles Stewart, Mediterranean . .		May, 1817	"	Oct., 1817
Philadelphia Navy Yard . . . . .		Oct., 1817	"	April, 1820
Furlough 12 months, and permission to go to India as mate of a ship . .		June, 1820	"	Feb., 1821
Philadelphia Navy Yard . . . . .		Feb., 1821	"	June, 1822
West India Squadron (vessel not mentioned) . . . . .		June, 1822	"	Dec., 1822
Sloop Hornet, West Indies . . . . .	Act. Mas. Dec.,	1822	"	Sept., 1823
Command of Frigate Baltimore, built for the Emperor of Brazil; carried her to Rio Janeiro . . . . .	Act. Lieut. Dec.,	1823	"	May, 1826
Sloop Natchez, West Indies . . . . .	—	July, 1826	"	Jan., 1827
Frigate Peacock, Exploring Expedition, South Pacific . . . . .	Lieut.	May, 1827	"	Dec., 1828
Sloop Natchez, Mediterranean . . . .		Dec., 1828	"	March, 1829
Frigate Constellation, Mediterranean		March, 1829	"	June, 1829
		June, 1829	"	Nov., 1831

Rendezvous, Philadelphia . . . . .	Dec., 1832 to Feb., 1833
Delaware, Line of Battle ship, Flag ship Com. D. T. Patterson, Mediterranean . . . . .	Feb., 1833 " Feb., 1834
Frigate United States, Mediterranean	Feb., 1834 " Jan., 1835
Special service testing guns . . . . .	Aug., 1836 " Nov., 1836
Receiving ship Baltimore . . . . .	Lt. Comdt. March, 1837 " April, 1839
Frigate Constitution, Flag ship Com. Claxton, Pacific . . . . .	Flag. Lt. April, 1839 " Feb., 1840
Sloop Falmouth, Pacific . . . . .	Lieut. Feb., 1840 " June, 1840
Commanding steam frigate Mississippi, W. I. . . . .	Com. April, 1842 " Nov., 1842
Commanding Sloop Vincennes, Home Squadron . . . . .	Nov., 1842 " Aug., 1844
Organizing the Naval Academy, and its first Superintendent (Aug. 14, 1845)	July, 1845 " March, 1847
Commanding Sloop Decatur, at Naval School . . . . .	March, 1846 " March, 1847
Command. Sloop Germantown, Home Squadron in Gulf of Mexico, during Mexican War . . . . .	March, 1847 " Feb., 1848
Light House duty . . . . .	Aug., 1848 " Nov., 1848
Command of Baltimore Rendezvous, Jan., '49; mem. board to exam. midshipmen, June, '49; mem. board to exam. mid., June, '50 . . . . .	Jan., 1849 " Jan., 1851
Member of board to examine midshipmen . . . . .	Sept., 1851
Ordered to take passage in the Mississippi to command the steam frigate Susquehanna, and proceed to China by overland route . . . . .	March, 1852
Commanding steam frigate Susquehanna, in Perry's Japan Expedition, East Indies . . . . .	July, 1852 " March, 1855
Member of board of officers to promote efficiency of the navy; the first retiring board called "Board of Fifteen" . . . . .	June, 1855 " Sept., 1855
Member of board to exam. midshipmen	Capt. April, 1859 " May, 1859
Command of navy yard, Washington	May, 1859 " April, 1861
Mem. Bd. Examiners, Oct., '59. President of Bd. Examiners, Nov., '59, and June, 1860.	

## SERVICE IN THE CONFEDERATE NAVY.

Chief of bureau of Orders and Detail.	Capt. Sept., 1861(?) to Feb., 1862
Flag Officer commanding Confederate squadron Hampton Roads. The Virginia, flag ship, and battle of March 8, 1862 . . . . .	Flag. Off. Feb. 24, 1862 " March 8, 1862
Admiral commanding fleet at Mobile, and battle with Admiral Farragut's squadron . . . . .	Admiral. Jan. 1, 1863 <sup>1</sup> " Aug. 5, 1864

These services may be divided as follows:—

<sup>1</sup> Or earlier.

	Sea service.	Ships.	Shore duty.	Stations.
United States navy . . . . .	21 y. 5 mo.	18	9 y. 4 mo.	11 <sup>1</sup>
Special service . . . . .	1 9	2		
Confederate service . . . . .	1 10	2	0 10	1
Totals . . . . .	25 0	22	10 2	12
Total length of service United States navy,	46 y.	3 mo.		
Confederate navy,	3	9		

## IN PRIVATE LIFE.

Admiral Buchanan remained at his home about three years ; but as he was known to prefer an active busy life, the presidency of the Maryland Agricultural College was tendered to him, September 5, 1868, which he accepted ; his duties however proving uncongenial, he resigned this presidency June 22, 1869, which was accepted July 1st.

On the 21st of January, 1870, he was appointed secretary of the Alabama branch of the Life Insurance Company of America, at Mobile ; and remained in that city until May 22, 1871, when he resigned. His resignation being accepted on the 12th of June following, he returned to his home in Maryland. In 1870, he was offered the agency of the Globe Mutual Insurance Company in Baltimore, which he declined.

## HIS MARRIAGE,—THE LLOYD FAMILY.

Admiral Buchanan was married when a lieutenant, at Annapolis, February 19, 1835, to Miss Ann Catharine, daughter of the late Governor Edward Lloyd of Wye House, Talbot county, Maryland. Her pedigree is as follows :

1. Edward Lloyd, his family originally from Wales, came to Maryland from Virginia about 1650, and settled near Annapolis ; was commander of Anne Arundel co. and Privy Counsellor of Maryland ; he had,—

2. Philemon Lloyd, Member of legislature, m. Mrs. Henrietta Maria (Neale) Bennet, died 1698, leaving with others ;—

3. Edward Lloyd, Mem. legislature, m. Sarah Covington, d. 1719, inherited Wye House from his grandfather ; had ;—

4. Edward Lloyd, b. 1711, Mem. legislature, m. Ann Rousby, d. 1770, leaving four children ; among whom,—

5. Edward Lloyd, m. Elizabeth Tayloe, d. 1796, and had ;—

6. Hon. Edward Lloyd, b. 1779, Representative in Congress 1806–9 ; Governor of Maryland 1809–11 ; U. S. Senator from Maryland 1819–26 ; m. Sally Scott Murray, and had ;—

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<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of examining boards.

7. Colonel Edward Lloyd (b. 1798, who inherited Wye House), Ann Catharine (Mrs. Buchanan), born January 14, 1808, and several others.

It is the voluntary custom in this family to follow the English law of descent, and leave the bulk of the property to the eldest son. In consequence, the property greatly increased with each possessor, especially during the last fifty years. It has been stated that the losses of the late Colonel Edward Lloyd, brother of Mrs. Buchanan, during the late war, amounted to one million of dollars.

8. The present Colonel Edward Lloyd, now owner of Wye House, married Mary Lloyd Howard. His son, also named Edward Lloyd, is an Ensign in the Navy.

The Hon. Henry Lloyd, Governor of Maryland, 1886-8, is a nephew of Mrs. Buchanan. Governor Edward Lloyd was the former owner of Frederick Douglass when a slave: the most prominent colored man in the United States, and most influential man among his race.<sup>1</sup>

Admiral Buchanan died on Monday evening, May 11, 1874, at half past eleven o'clock, at his home, a beautiful place called *The Rest*, overlooking Miles River, Talbot county, Maryland. He was interred in the burial ground of the Lloyd family, at Wye House, about four miles distant.

Resolutions of respect to his memory were adopted by the Survivors of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States in and about Talbot co. Md., assembled May 18, 1874; signed by James Hambleton, president, and Oswald Tilghman, secretary, and sent to his family. Also, similar resolutions were adopted by the citizens of Talbot co. in mass meeting assembled, on the 2d of June, 1874; engrossed and attested by Samuel Hambleton, president, and J. Frank Turner, secretary.

The Society of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States in the State of Maryland, which was founded not long after this, adopted an ornamental heading for their diplomas, containing at the top the likeness of Admiral Buchanan, below this on the left, General Lee, and on the right, General "Stonewall" Jackson.

The *Pickett-Buchanan Camp of Confederate Veterans* of Norfolk, Va., is so named in honor of Admiral Buchanan. It was organized in December, 1884, as the Geo. E. Pickett Association, and named in honor of the General. The name was

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<sup>1</sup>*Old Kent*, Geo. A. Hanson, 1876, where the family is carried down to Mrs. Buchanan's children.

changed as above, January 25, 1885. It is a charitable organization for the relief of Confederate soldiers; uniformed, and regularly chartered. It has a full and competent corps of officers of whom the principal at the present time are J. F. Cecil, commander; Geo. W. Wilson, paymaster; T. B. Jackson, adjutant.<sup>1</sup>

In appearance, Admiral Buchanan was slightly below middle stature, bald on the top of his head with iron gray hair on the sides brushed upward; his face cleanly shaven, indicated great strength of character. He moved with much grace and had an affable, courteous bearing. He possessed that indescribable magnetism that attracted and interested others in anything he said or did. He was compactly built, and the movements of his arms and legs gave evidence of great physical strength; his brother McKean has stated, that when in his prime, he was considered the third strongest man in the navy; and in illustration related the following incident:—

When a lieutenant, while driving one day with his brother George, four young men passed ahead, giving them the dust; they presently lagged behind and passed again; whereupon lieutenant Buchanan spoke to them, threatening to chastise the four if they repeated the offense. On their arrival at the inn, where travelers stopped, the four young men came up to him in a threatening manner. Lieutenant Buchanan without further words knocked down the two foremost, and the two others thought it more prudent to retire.

Another incident showing his courage, and the influence he had over men, is related in the *Richmond Dispatch* of May 13, 1883. The writer of this interesting article is unknown; it is too long for insertion here, but is given in full in Appendix No. IV.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Biographies of Admiral Buchanan may be found in the following works: *N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register*, vol. xxviii.; Appleton's *Cyclop. Amer. Biog.*; Appleton's *Cyclop. of Biog.*, 6 vols., 1888; *Annual Cyclop.*, 1874, p. 634; *New Amer. Encyclop.*, iii., 379; Scharf's *Hist. Confed. Navy*, with a likeness, p. 153; Hamersly's *Navy Register for 100 Years*; Drake's *Dict. Amer. Biog.*, and others. Admiral Porter's *Naval Hist. Civil War* contains a moderately good likeness, but a poor picture. Lossing's *Hist. Civil War* also

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<sup>1</sup> Letter of the adjutant.



contains a wood-cut likeness. John Tayloe Wood's article in the *Century Magazine*, vol. xxix., contains an excellent likeness.

## HIS FAMILY.

Mrs. Buchanan still lives at *The Rest*, surrounded by her children and grandchildren. Admiral and Mrs. Buchanan's children are :

- |           |                   |  |
|-----------|-------------------|--|
| 59. i.    | SALLIE LLOYD,     | b. Annapolis, Dec. 18, 1835 (Mrs. T. F. Screven).  |
| ii.       | LÆTITIA MCKEAN,   | b. Annapolis, Feb. 27, 1837 } Residing at          |
| iii.      | ALICE LLOYD,      | b. Annapolis, Dec. 28, 1839 } "The Rest."          |
| 60. iv.   | NANNIE,           | b. Annapolis, Sept. 25, 1841 (Mrs. Meiere).        |
| 61. v.    | ELLEN,            | b. Annapolis, Sept. 25, 1841 (Mrs. G. P. Screven). |
| 62. vi.   | ELIZABETH TAYLOE, | b. The Rest, July 1, 1845 (Mrs. Sullivan).         |
| 63. vii.  | FRANKLIN, JR.,    | b. Annapolis, Jan. 16, 1847.                       |
| 64. viii. | ROSA,             | b. The Rest, Aug. 23, 1850 (Mrs. Goldsborough).    |
| 65. ix.   | MARY TILGHMAN,    | b. The Rest, Nov. 29, 1852 (Mrs. Owen).            |

### CHILDREN OF MRS. ANN (MCKEAN) BUCHANAN. [6.]

24. MRS. SUSAN (BUCHANAN) NEWMAN.—Born in Baltimore, February 27, 1798, and was married to George H. Newman, a merchant of Baltimore, of the firm of Hammond and Newman. He was born in Boston, July 12, 1798, was Vice Consul of Brazil, exequatur November 8, 1831, succeeding his relative Mr. Coale. He died in Baltimore, March 20, 1847. Mrs. Newman died October 14, 1873. Their remains are interred at Newport, R. I.<sup>1</sup>

Their children are:—(See Appendix II, No. 24.)

- |        |                                       |   |
|--------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 66. i. | WILLIAM HENRY,                        | b. Monday, Nov. 26, 1823.                             |
| ii.    | MARY LOUISA,                          | b. Friday, Dec. 26, 1824. Resides<br>Cambridge, Mass. |
| iii.   | CAROLINE AUGUSTA,                     | b. Friday, ——— <sup>2</sup> } Residing, New-          |
| iv.    | SIDNEY CALHOUN ( <i>a daughter</i> ), | b. Thursday, ——— <sup>2</sup> } port, R. I.           |

<sup>1</sup>The family bible, printed in London 1815, contains numerous discrepancies in dates, throwing a doubt over every entry. The dates most probably reliable are given in the text above. The date Feb. 27, 1798, agrees with the registry of St. Paul's Church, Baltimore. Mr. Newman's death is recorded, "March 21, 1847, in 49th year," but according to an abstract from his tombstone, given "March 20, 1847, aged 51 years." The latter age is probably wrong, although this date and age are given in the *American Almanac* for 1848, p. 357, and in the *Balt. Amer. and Com. Adv.*, March 22. On Mrs. Newman's tombstone her birth is given wrongly, Feb. 28, 1799. The date of her marriage is unknown. The dates of births of children above given are from this bible; they cannot be correct, because the days of the month do not, in any case, fall upon the days of the week annexed.

<sup>2</sup>Two dates omitted by request.

25. MRS. MARY (BUCHANAN) SANFORD.—Born in Baltimore, November 1, 1800. She was married in Baltimore by the Rev. Dr. Wyatt, May 27, 1828, to the Hon. Nathan Sanford, at that time United States Senator from New York.<sup>1</sup> She was doubly an orphan at the time of her marriage, and it is stated that she was given away by President John Quincy Adams, who was a friend of the groom; and connected by marriage with the bride's family, as already mentioned on a previous page.

Senator Sanford was born in Bridgehampton, Long Island, November 5, 1777. He received an elementary education at Clinton Academy East Hampton, and entered Yale College in 1793, but did not graduate. Studied law in 1797, with the elder Samuel Jones, and was admitted to the bar in 1799. By his genius and application he soon obtained a handsome and profitable practice. In 1800 he was one of the Commissioners of Bankruptcy of the United States. In 1803, United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York; which position he held for twelve years. In 1811, he was elected a member of the Assembly; and was subsequently chosen Speaker, being the last who presided in a cocked hat. The following year he was elected to the State Senate.

In 1815, Mr. Sanford was elected to the United States Senate, and soon afterwards relinquished his profession, devoting himself, in his legislative capacity, to the interests of his country. After the expiration of his term of office in 1821, he was chosen a member of the convention for framing a new constitution for the State of New York. In 1823, he was appointed to succeed the Hon. James Kent, as Chancellor of the State, which position he filled with honor until 1825, when he was again elected to the United States Senate in place of Rufus King, by a unanimous vote of both branches of the legislature. He was chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations—the most prominent of all the Senate committees. He made an elaborate report on coinage, a subject then engaging the attention of Congress, and upon his recommendations its subsequent legislation was principally based.

In the presidential election which took place in 1824, Senator Sanford was one of the candidates for the office of Vice-President of the United States. At this period candidates were not formally nominated by their parties, as at the present day. In this election there were four candidates for the presidency:

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<sup>1</sup>*Nat. Intell.*, May 31, 1828.

William H. Crawford, nominated by the democratic members of congress; Andrew Jackson, nominated chiefly by numerous conventions—the candidate of the people; John Quincy Adams, nominated by the legislatures of most of the New England States; and Henry Clay, nominated by his friends in various States. Mr. Sanford was put upon the ticket with Mr. Clay. The other candidates for Vice-President were Calhoun, Macon, Van Buren, Jackson and Clay. Neither candidate received a majority of votes for President, but Adams was elected when the vote was thrown into the House of Representatives. Calhoun received a large majority for Vice-President.

Among the many eminent men to whom Long Island has given birth, there has been no one, who during an equal period, has served the public in positions more varied and important than Senator Sanford. His congressional life has already been alluded to; and his career as Chancellor was not surpassed by either of his distinguished predecessors. He was a finished scholar, familiar with the ancient languages and with French, and in after life made himself master of Spanish and Italian.<sup>1</sup>

On retiring from public life, Senator Sanford took up his residence at Flushing, L. I., a town remarkable for the number of elegant private residences it contained; among these the most elegant and conspicuous was that of Senator Sanford, upon an elevated site in the northern part of the village.<sup>2</sup>

Senator Sanford was married three times: first to Mary Isaacs, by whom he had Mary, married to General Peter Gansevoort; Edward, a state senator; Eliza, Mrs. John Le Breton, and Charles, who died unmarried. His second wife was Eliza Van Horn, of Dutch descent, by whom he had one son, Henry, who died aged 21. His third wife was Mary Buchanan, who survived him.

Senator Sanford died at his home in Flushing, October 17, 1838. His widow subsequently removed to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where she died April 23, 1879.

Only child of Senator Sanford and Mary Buchanan.

67. i. ROBERT, b. Albany, N. Y., Dec. 10, 1831.

26. LIEUT. THOMAS McKEAN BUCHANAN, U. S. N.  
—Born August 14, 1802. He was appointed a midshipman in

<sup>1</sup>Thompson's *Hist. of Long Island*, 1843.

<sup>2</sup>Biographies of Senator Sanford may be found in Thompson's *Long Island*, the biographical dictionaries of Appleton, who gives a likeness, Drake, and Lanman. He is also mentioned in Benton's *Thirty Years in the Senate*, and in Thurlow Weed's autobiography.

the navy, November 3, 1818; and ordered to Norfolk, Va., Oct. 1819. His subsequent services were—John Adams (an old vessel, not the recent sloop of war of the same name); West India squadron, Ap. '21; Enterprise, Ap. '23; New York, station, Aug. '23; Constellation, Nov. '23; (Emmons' *U. S. Navy*, 1775-53, does not mention any cruise for this date); Cyane (the original vessel captured from the English) no date given on the department books. She cruised in the Mediterranean 1824-5; leave Oct. '25 for six months, extended to one year; Lieutenant, March 3, '27; Frigate Hudson, Brazil, flagship of Commodore J. O. Creighton, 1828-9-30-1; Experiment, on the coast, March '32-3; Schooner Porpoise, Sept. 4, '32; dismissed Oct. 20, 1832. The Porpoise was lost during this cruise on a reef in the West Indies in 1833.<sup>1</sup> He died unmarried, but the date of his death seems to be wholly unknown to his immediate relatives now living.

27. MRS. ANN McKEAN (BUCHANAN) WADE.—Born May 8, 1803,<sup>2</sup> according to the *History of the Bethlehem Female Seminary, at Bethlehem, Pa.*, (Lippincott, 1858,) where she was a student in 1815, John Merryman of Baltimore, being her guardian. She was married, May 12, 1825, to Colonel Richard Dean Arden Wade of the army, at that date a lieutenant.

Colonel Wade was the son of William Wade of Ireland, a captain in the British army; who came to this country under Sir Henry Clinton, and served under him during the revolution. He married a Miss Dean of New York; their son was born in New York April 26, 1796, and was appointed a Second lieutenant of artillery, October 27, 1820; transferred to the 7th Infantry, June 1, 1821; transferred to the 3d Artillery, October 16, 1822. 1st lieutenant, September 10, 1828. Assistant Commissary of subsistence, December 1833. Paymaster, April, 1837. Captain, December 26, 1840. Brevet Major, March, 1843, for gallant and meritorious service in the Florida war, November 6, 1841. He served with distinction in the Mexican war, being severely wounded at the battle of Cherubusco; and took part in the battle of Molino del Rey, September 8, 1847, for which he

<sup>1</sup> Navy Dept. Records; Emmons' *U. S. Navy*, 1775-53.

<sup>2</sup> None of her descendants can give the date of her birth, to verify the date here stated. After giving several dates, they finally fixed upon one which proved to be the first anniversary of her mother's death. Such are the trials of a genealogist!

received the brevet of lieutenant colonel in March, 1849. He died at Fort Constitution, Portsmouth, N. H., February 13, 1850. Mrs. Wade subsequently removed to Savannah, Georgia, where she died June 25, 1860.<sup>1</sup> Their children:

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 68. i. JOHNNANA,                  | b. March 30, 1826 (Mrs. Barlow).    |
| 69. ii. SARAH ELIZABETH MERRYMAN, | b. Jan. 5, 1828 (Mrs. Thomas).      |
| 70. iii. WILLIAM,                 | b. April 25, 1831.                  |
| iv. MARY BUCHANAN,                | b. Feb. 25, 1833.                   |
| v. HARRIET MURRAY,                | b. April 28, 1835; d. Dec. 9, 1855. |
| 71. vi. ROBERT BUCHANAN,          | b. Aug. 1, 1844.                    |

### CHILDREN OF SARAH MARIA THERESA (McKEAN), MARCHIONESS DE CASA YRUJO. [7.]

28. DOÑA NARCISA MARIA LUISA (MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y McKEAN) DE PIERRARD.—Born in Philadelphia while her father was the envoy from Spain to this country, and baptized November 30, 1800. She was married in Madrid, February 14, 1842, to His Excellency, Señor Don Blas Santiago de Pierrard y Alcedar, a Field Marshal of Spain, subsequently Lieutenant General of Her Majesty's forces; who was sometime Military Governor of the Philippine Islands; and afterwards a member of the Spanish Cortes, in 1872, and a republican leader. He was decorated with the order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Isabel la Catolica, of St. Ferdinand, and a Commander of the Royal Order of Charles III, being decorated for military deeds of daring. He died at Saragossa, Spain, September 29, 1872. Doña Narcisa de Pierrard was a Lady in Waiting to Queen Maria Louisa, and resided at the Court. She was decorated with the order of Maria Luisa, and died in Madrid November 3, 1874, without issue.

From her mother she received a large tract of land in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, called the Sewickley tract, which, in her will dated September 13, 1861, she bequeathes to her two nephews, the Marquis de Casa Yrujo and the Marquis de los Arcos. This property had been leased for half a century or more, and had recently become so valuable that a lawsuit, appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States, was necessary to dispossess the lessees.

29. SEÑOR DON CAROS, FERNANDO MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y McKEAN, SECOND MARQUIS DE CASA YRUJO,

<sup>1</sup> Gardner's *Dict. of Army*; Hamersly's *Register of Army for 100 Years*.

DUKE DE SOTOMAYOR.<sup>1</sup>—He was born in Washington, D. C., while his father was minister to this country, December 14, 1802; and was educated under the personal direction of his father; entered the diplomatic service at an early age, and was appointed an officer of the Ministry of State (Foreign Office), and Secretary to the Embassy in Paris; assisting in that capacity at the coronation of King Charles X. of France. He returned to Spain in 1826; and took his place at the Ministry of State, being subsequently appointed a Secretary of State, and Secretary to the Council of Ministers. On the death of King Ferdinand VII., in 1833, he supported the cause of the rightful Queen Isabel II., and entered the Cortes for the first time in 1838 as a member for Malaga. In subsequent Parliaments he sat twice for Palencia, three times for Cordoba, and once for Madrid; being finally appointed Senator for life, 1846. In politics he always belonged to the conservative or moderate party. He filled in succession the responsible posts of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of St. James, 1844–46; President of the Council of Ministers, and First Secretary of State (Foreign Affairs), 1847–48; Ambassador to France, 1849–51; and Mayordomo to Her Catholic Majesty, 1854.

As President of the Council of Ministers, he held an office next in rank and power to the Queen, corresponding somewhat to that of Prime Minister in England; and of which we have no equivalent in this country, unless it be the President himself, while presiding at a Cabinet meeting. The office of Mayordomo, or Lord High Steward, is a post of great honor near the person of Her Majesty.

He was a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Orders of Charles III. and of Isabel la Catolica of Spain; the Legion of Honor of France; St. Mauritius, and Lazarus of Sardinia; Christ of Portugal; the Danneborg of Denmark; an Honorary Councillor of State; Maestrante de Ronda y de Seville;<sup>2</sup> and a Gentilhombre de Cámara to the Queen of Spain.

He was married at Madrid, June 23, 1844, to Señorita Doña Gabriela del Alcazar y Vera de Aragon, Duchess de Soto-

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<sup>1</sup> According to the custom in Spanish countries, the name of the mother is always added after that of the father, thus: *Martínez de Yrujo and (y) McKean*.

<sup>2</sup> The *Maestranza* is a society of noblemen for practicing equestrian exercises; *maestrante*, a member. The Royal Maestranza of Ronda was created in 1572, that of Seville in 1670, which are the two oldest in Spain.

mayor, Grandee of Spain of the First Class,<sup>1</sup> and decorated with the Order of Maria Luisa.

The family of Sotomayor is of very great antiquity in Spain. It is related in the early history of the family that Sorred Ferrandez, an attendant upon the heir to the throne, killed the prince accidentally, in a forest where they were fencing. He was pardoned by the king, who considered it an accident. The king changed the colors of his arms from red to black, in order that his posterity should not be reminded of this occurrence. This person resided in the forest (*soto*) of Aldea, and gave rise to the family of Sorred, afterwards Sotomayor.<sup>2</sup>

The Dukedom of Sotomayor was created by *Real Cédula*, of King Philip the V., dated April 25, 1703; the *Real Despacho* (or letters patent) was issued in 1773. Of the ninety dukedoms in Spain, Sotomayor ranks about the thirty-eighth. The Duchess was born in Barcelona, Spain, March 6, 1826, and succeeded to the title in 1844. According to Spanish custom, her husband assumed the title of Duke, since this title was the superior to his own.<sup>3</sup>

The Duke de Sotomayor was a great sufferer from the gout, and during a severe attack unfortunately took his own life at the Ducal Palace, in Madrid, December 26, 1855. The family property and estates lie in the provinces of Avilla, Badajos, Burgos, Guipuzcoa, Madrid, Cordoba, Cadiz, Salamanca, Toledo, and Zamora. The Duchess resides in Madrid. Their issue (surname, Martinez de Yrujo y Alcazar):

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 72. i. DON CARLOS MANUEL,          | b. in London, England, April 5, 1846.<br>Third and present Marquis de Casa Yrujo y de los Arcos. |
| 73. ii. DON MANUEL,                | b. at St. Germain en Laye, France,<br>June 23, 1849. Marquis de los Arcos.                       |
| iii. DOÑA MARIA DEL PILAR,         | b. Paris, France, June 3, 1850.  |
| 74. iv. DOÑA MARIA DE LA PIEDAD,   | b. Paris, France, April 27, 1851 (Viscountess de Benaesa).                                       |
| 75. v. DOÑA MARIA DE LAS VIRTUDES, | b. Madrid, November 2, 1852 (Countess de Lambertye).   |

<sup>1</sup> *Grandee*, in Spain, is a title that has no equivalent in other countries; the *grandees* were originally of royal descent, and took rank before all other nobles, were privileged from arrest, and had great power; they are now mostly deprived of their former privileges, except that of wearing the hat in the presence of the sovereign. The three grades are distinguished by the manner of covering themselves when they do honor for the first time. It is not necessary that the possessor of this title should already possess other titles of nobility. A noble of lower rank or even a private gentleman may be a *Grandee* of the First Class.

<sup>2</sup> *Nobilario de los Reinos y Señorios de España*, Piferrer, Madrid, 1858.

<sup>3</sup> Chiefly from a letter of the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, Madrid, March 31, 1887.

**CHILDREN OF THOMAS McKEAN, Jr. [8]**

30. HENRY PRATT McKEAN.—Born in Philadelphia, May 3, 1810. He spent his youth in that city, and was for a time of the class of 1826 in the University of Pennsylvania, leaving college at a very early age without graduating and entering the counting house of his grandfather, Henry Pratt, one of the best known and most successful Philadelphia merchants of those days. Here Mr. McKean remained for some years, acquiring much valuable experience in business and business methods, and cultivating and developing his own great natural aptitude in the same direction. Later on he undertook on his own account important commercial operations with South America and Mexico, and extended these finally until they embraced active correspondence and trade with the East and West Indies and China, Mr. McKean, exhibiting in the conduct of this foreign commerce the spirit of the Merchant Princes of those days, winning also in competition with those able and accomplished men his full meed of success.

If Philadelphia has gained greatly in material prosperity since those times, becoming one of the greatest railroad and manufacturing centers of the world, it must be said regretfully that it has lost something, under the conditions of more modern progress, in the passing away of the realities of far commercial enterprises, with the traditions of which an almost romantic sentiment connects itself; and with the best of these traditions Mr. McKean's name justly shares.

Mr. McKean's maternal grandfather died in Philadelphia in the year 1838, leaving to him, in common with the other heirs, a portion of an ample fortune. Soon afterwards Mr. McKean associated himself in business with his brother-in-law, the late Adolphe E. Borie, so well remembered in Philadelphia for his genial character and high qualities, and they remained together in partnership until Mr. Borie's death in the spring of 1880, gradually withdrawing themselves from participation in foreign commerce and becoming interested in conspicuous local enterprises.

On July 8, 1841, Mr. McKean was married at Troy, N. Y., to Phebe Elizabeth Warren, daughter of Stephen Warren and Martha Cornell Mabbett, his wife, of that place.

In 1849, Mr. McKean purchased from the estate of the late Louis Clapier a large tract of land some four miles northwest from what were then the northwestern limits of the city of



Philadelphia, beautifully situated on the first ridge of ground of that long succession of ridges, which, mounting constantly higher, run parallel with each other with short undulating intervals through Germantown, Mount Airy and Chestnut Hill, some five miles distant on the west and north, where the ground then falls away to the beautiful White Marsh Valley. At "Fernhill," as Mr. McKean's estate is named, he removed the house of Mr. Clapier, and built in its place a fine stone residence,<sup>1</sup> the square tower surmounting which is a land-mark on all approaches from the direction of the city; but he retained intact the Clapier barn,<sup>2</sup> which from its size and unique character, and the great ship which acts as a vane above it, is one of the best known features of the country round about.

The buildings at "Fernhill" are embowered in splendid trees, and the land far to the right and left slopes in a beautiful lawn to the low ground beneath. The view commands the whole city of Philadelphia and the Delaware river and the country far across in New Jersey. This fine estate has never been intruded upon, but, on the contrary, has been enlarged; on its borders great industrial establishments are beginning to accumulate, and a great Railroad Junction is now close at hand. "Fernhill" must lose its rural character, but so long as it is isolated on a hill and well cared for it can never lose its charm. It has been the scene of much generous hospitality, and Mrs McKean has aided by her character and kindly life to make the house notable for all that is attractive in a home. In winter, Mr. McKean and his son occupy respectively the twin houses at the corner of 20th and Walnut streets in Philadelphia.<sup>3</sup>

Since the war Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pratt McKean have delegated to their son and his wife the pleasant task of continuing their own former hospitality, and Mr. McKean, while in no sense a recluse, has contented himself with a quiet and private domestic life. Their children:

76. i. THOMAS, b. Phila., November 28, 1842.

ii. STEPHEN WARREN, b. Phila., Feb. 4, 1844; d. April 28, 1846.

<sup>1</sup> See *The Art. Journal*, Sept., 1877, No. 33, p. 262.

<sup>2</sup> It is described in *Pa. Mag.*, v., 138.

<sup>3</sup> Among Mr. McKean's pictures, is one of Washington, by Peale, taken from life at Valley Forge, and referred to in *Pa. Mag.*, xiii., 260; in Winsor's *Nar. and Crit. Hist. of Amer.*, vii., 566; and in the *Century Magazine*, xxxvii., 861.

31. MRS. SARAH ANN (McKEAN) TROTT.—Born in Philadelphia, August 10, 1811. She was married November 5, 1833, to George Trott, formerly of Boston; but who has resided in Philadelphia since his marriage. Their children:

- 77. i. SARAH McKEAN, b. Dec. 8, 1835 (Mrs. Hazlehurst).
- ii. GEORGE BOYLSTON, b. May 12, 1840; d. Mar. 11, 1842.
- iii. HENRY, b. Dec. 31, 1841; d. May 5, 1843.

32. MRS. ELIZABETH DUNDAS (McKEAN) BORIE.—Born in Philadelphia, March 2, 1815. She was married in Philadelphia May 23, 1839, to Mr. Adolphe E. Borie.

#### THE BORIE FAMILY.

John J. Borie, a Frenchman, came to this country in 1805, and entered into business as a merchant in Philadelphia. In 1808, he married Sophia Beauveau, by whom he had twelve children, of whom Adolphe Edward was the eldest; born November 25, 1809. The father associated his eldest son with him in business in 1833.

Adolphe E. Borie graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1825, and subsequently took the degree of A. M. He went to France to continue his studies, returning in 1828. After this he entered the counting house of his father, and about 1838 entered into partnership with Mr. McKean as above related. He was Consul for Belgium, November 10, 1843, and about the same time acting consul for Sicily, but the latter does not appear upon the records of the State Department. In 1848, Mr. Borie was elected president of the Bank of Commerce, but relinquished the position in 1860, to take a trip to Europe. He was a director of the National Bank of Commerce, a member of the Board of Trade, a manager of the Philadelphia Savings Fund Society, and a liberal contributor to various benevolent associations.

He was one of the founders of the Union Club at the beginning of the civil war, which afterwards became the Union League; and the first vice-president in 1862, retaining the position until his death. He was interested in the Academy of Sciences in Philadelphia.

Upon General Grant's accession to the Presidency, he invited Mr. Borie to a seat in his Cabinet as Secretary of the Navy, which was accepted. Mr. Borie was nominated and confirmed March 5, and entered upon his duties March 9, 1869. His labors, however, proving too onerous for his age

and health, he resigned June 25, 1869, and Mr. Robeson, who was appointed the same day, assumed charge on the 26th. (See Appendix II.)

In 1872, Mr. Borie was a Presidential Elector-at-large from Pennsylvania on the Republican ticket, and cast his vote for General Grant for President; and in 1878, after the expiration of General Grant's term of office, Mr. Borie accompanied him on part of his tour round the world, having joined him in Paris.

Mr. Borie was a gentleman of cultivated tastes, and had collected one of the finest private galleries of paintings in Philadelphia, containing numerous pictures of the modern French and Spanish schools. His collection is described in *Lippincott's Magazine* (vol. x., 221, Aug., 1872), No. 5 of a series of articles entitled *Private Art Collections of Philadelphia*.

Mr. Borie was a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania since 1858, and a member of the American Philosophical Society since 1872.

He died after a short illness, February 5, 1880, and was buried from St. Stephen's church. The Union League adopted suitable resolutions, and appropriate honors were paid by the Secretary of the Navy, the Department building being closed on the day of the funeral, and draped in mourning for thirty days thereafter.<sup>1</sup>

Mrs. Borie died in Philadelphia March 29, 1886, without issue.

33. MRS. CLEMENTINA SOPHIA (McKEAN) BORIE. —Born in Philadelphia May 27, 1820; and married in Philadelphia May 23, 1843, to Charles Louis Borie, a younger brother of the Hon. A. E. Borie.

Mr. Borie was born in Philadelphia January 7, 1819, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1837, subsequently taking the master's degree. Soon after graduating, he associated his younger brother Henry P. Borie with himself under the firm of C. & H. Borie, merchants, in Philadelphia; but about 1854 changed their business to that of bankers and brokers. In 1871 they associated with themselves as members of the firm Beauveau Borie and James M. Rhodes, son and son-in-law of Charles L. Borie. Henry P. Borie died March 26, 1886, and Charles L. died at his country seat, called *The*

<sup>1</sup>See *Appleton's Cyclop. Biog.*, 1888; Scharf and Westcott, *Hist. Phil.*, iii., 2339; *Biog. Encycl. Penn.*; *Phila. Times*, Feb. 6, 1880, etc.

*Dell*, near Philadelphia, November 7, 1886. The firm has since been continued by the surviving partners, Mr. John T. Lewis, Jr., being admitted to partnership in 1889. In politics Mr. Borie was a Republican, and one of the original members of the Union League. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Borie, all born in Philadelphia, are :

- |         |                   |                                      |
|---------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 78. i.  | ELIZABETH McKEAN, | b. Mar. 4, 1844 (Mrs. Lewis).        |
| 79. ii. | BEAUVEAU,         | b. May 9, 1846.                      |
|         | iii. CLEMENTINA,  | b. April 28, 1849; d. July 15, 1850. |
| 80. iv. | EMILY,            | b. April 9, 1851 (Mrs. Rhodes).      |
| 81. v.  | SARAH C. McKEAN,  | b. Feb. 2, 1853 (Mrs. Mason).        |

## FOURTH GENERATION.

### CHILDREN OF COMMODORE WILLIAM W. McKEAN. [11.]

34. JOSEPH BORDEN McKEAN.—Born August 11, 1827. He was a farmer at Cobham, Virginia; and was married February 5, 1856, to Eliza A. Jarvis, daughter of Marietta and Henry Sanford Jarvis, of Redding, Fairfield co., Connecticut. She died March 29, 1886, at Deposit, New York. Mr. McKean died at Cobham, October 8, 1871. Their children :

- |          |                      |                                   |
|----------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| i.       | FRANKLIN BUCHANAN,   | b. May 14, 1857; d. July 4, 1858. |
| 82. ii.  | ANNA BAYARD          | b. July 28, 1859 (Mrs. Dean).     |
| 83. iii. | HENRY JARVIS,        | b. March 1, 1861.                 |
|          | iv. KATHERINE MYERS, | b. March 26, 1864                 |
|          | v. MARIETTA ELY,     | b. Aug. 3, 1866                   |
- } Living in Spring Valley,  
N. Y.

35. LIEUT. FRANKLIN BUCHANAN McKEAN, U. S. N.—Born August 17, 1830, (See Appendix II, 11.) He entered the Navy September 30, 1845, as a midshipman, and was stationed at the Naval School. He served on board the razee *Independence*, flagship of Commodore Shubrick, in the Pacific, from August 1846, until May 10, 1847, on which day he resigned his commission. He died unmarried at Bristol, Pennsylvania, October 21, 1853.

36. MRS. CAROLINE (McKEAN) WILSON.—Born in Philadelphia, and married January 3, 1856, William Newbold

Wilson; who was born in Princeton, N. J., now a merchant in Binghamton, N. Y. Their children:

- i. KATHLINA JOLINE, d. in infancy.
- 84. ii. WILLIAM McKEAN,
- iii. ROSA CLARK,
- iv. SADIE,
- v. JOLINE, } Twins, both d. in infancy.
- vi. ELIZABETH ELY.

37. MRS. ELIZABETH DAVIS CLARK (McKEAN) ELY.—Born in Philadelphia, June 24, 1836; (See Appendix II, 11.) married at Binghamton, June 18, 1856, to Joseph Elihu Ely, born January 22, 1825, in Binghamton, and a merchant in that city. He was a member of the state legislature in 1853, and under appointment of the Governor, Manager of the N. Y. State Inebriate Asylum, 1872–77. Mrs. Ely died November 23, 1881. Their children:

- i. ROSE McKEAN, b. Phil., Dec. 21, 1857; d. Bing., Aug. 19, 1858.
- 85. ii. WILLIAM MATHER, b. Bing., July 20, 1860.
- iii. ELIZABETH ANNA, b. May 29, 1862; d. Oct. 4, 1862.
- iv. McKEAN, b. July 18, 1863; d. Oct. 20, 1877.

38. CAPT. WILLIAM BISHOP McKEAN, U. S. MARINE CORPS.—Born November 2, 1840;<sup>1</sup> commissioned in the United States Marine Corps as a second lieutenant, November 25, 1861; made a first lieutenant November 26, 1861, and was soon after ordered to the marine barracks at Brooklyn, N. Y. Stationed at the marine barracks, Mare Island, California, 1863–65. While in California, Lieutenant McKean acted as second to Captain Cohen, of the Marine Corps, in conveying a challenge. For this both were tried by court martial, and found not guilty of the charge, but guilty of the specification. This singular finding was set aside by the Secretary of the Navy upon the ground that if found not guilty they should have been acquitted; the court having no authority to find them guilty upon any other charge.<sup>2</sup> Steam frigate Brooklyn, flagship of the Brazil squadron, 1865 to Sept. '67; promoted to a captaincy, October 13, 1869; marine barracks, Philadelphia, 1867–70; retired from active service April 16, 1870.

He was married in Philadelphia, January 19, 1871, to Har-

<sup>1</sup> This date is from the register of the First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, and entered under the date of his baptism, August 29, 1841. The family records give his birth November 10, 1841, which cannot be correct, as the baptismal register is chronologically arranged.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. Orders, No. 22, Oct. 17, 1863.

riet Davis, who was born at "Delaware Place," Wilmington, Delaware, November 12, 1852, the daughter of Samuel Boyer and Sally B. Davis. Her father, Colonel Davis, was a gallant soldier of the War of 1812. Captain McKean was accidentally killed by being thrown from his horse at Cobham, Virginia, August 30, 1879. (His widow was married a second time, November 28, 1882, to Beauford E. Vaughan, of Green co., Virginia. They now reside in Wilmington.)

Only child of Captain McKean:—

i. BETTINE, b. Virginia, Oct. 17, 1871.

39. MRS. MARY MILES (McKEAN) JACKSON.—Born January 29, 1843; and married November 10, 1863, to Dr. David Post Jackson, a practicing physician in Binghamton. Mrs. Jackson died without issue, April 15, 1864. Her husband has since married a second time.

40. MRS. ROSA (McKEAN) HOTCHKISS.—Born in Philadelphia (see Appendix II, 11), and married in Binghamton, April 24, 1872, to Cyrus Frederick Hotchkiss, only son of the Hon. Giles W. Hotchkiss, representative in Congress from 1862, to the 38–39–40–41st Congresses. He was born in Binghamton about June 16, 1849; studied at Cornell University 1868–9, but did not graduate; and died in Binghamton, March 4, 1878. Mrs. Hotchkiss' home is in Binghamton, though she lived in Washington in 1881–6.

Their children, born in Binghamton:—

- i. BESSIE ROYS,
- ii. ROSE McKEAN.

### CHILDREN OF MRS. ADELINE J. (McKEAN) BAYARD. [12.]

41. CHARLES McKEAN BAYARD.—Born in Philadelphia October 30, 1838; graduated at the University of Pennsylvania 1857, also A. M.; and entered into business in Philadelphia as a broker, residing in Germantown. He was married at Newark, N. J., October 12, 1864, to Margaretta P. Wilson, daughter of Matthew Wilson and Elizabeth Gill, his wife, of Philadelphia. Their children:—

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 86. i. JAMES WILSON,   | b. Aug. 2, 1865.  |
| ii. ADELINE JULIA,     | b. Dec. 26, 1866. |
| iii. SAMUEL McKEAN,    | b. Nov. 21, 1868. |
| iv. MARGARETTA WILSON, | b. Jan. 5, 1871.  |
| v. ELIZABETH GILL,     | b. July 31, 1873. |
| vi. EDITH STUYVESANT,  | b. Dec. 20, 1876. |

42. JAMES BAYARD.—Born in Philadelphia June 9, 1845, and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1864, and A. M. He entered into business as a wholesale lumber merchant, residing in Germantown; and was married in Germantown September 23, 1869, to Elizabeth Henry Armstrong, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Gulick Armstrong—he of Philadelphia, she of Princeton, N. J. Children of James and Bessie H. Bayard :

- i. ELSIE HARRISON, b. Oct. 22, 1870; d. Aug. 10, 1871.
- ii. MABEL, b. March 26, 1872.
- iii. CARO ROSA, b. June 16, 1873.
- iv. CHARLES PETTIT, b. July 12, 1886.

43. MRS. CAROLINE ROSA (BAYARD) HENRY.—Born in Philadelphia, September 26, 1850; and married at Germantown May 12, 1875, to the Rev. Alexander Henry. He was born in Germantown in December, 1850, graduated at the College of New Jersey at Princeton, 1870, also took the degree A. M. He studied for the ministry, and was ordained in the Presbyterian church. Since his marriage, he has lived in Williamsport, Penn.; where he has charge of a congregation. Their children :

- i. MARY BAYARD, b. Germantown, May 27, 1876; d. Jan. 6, 1890.
- ii. ADELINE McKEAN, b. Williamsport, May 7, 1878.
- iii. ETHEL ANNA, b. April 5, 1883; d. Aug. 20, 1883.
- iv. ALEXANDER, JR., b. Williamsport, Aug. 21, 1885.

### CHILD OF MRS. MARY (McKEAN) HOFFMAN. [13.]

44. MRS. ANNE McKEAN (HOFFMAN) KERR.—Born in Baltimore; and married in Trinity Church, New York, October 29, 1855, to John Morris Kerr, of New York. Mrs. Kerr lived for a number of years in West Chester, Pa., where at her house her mother died. In the fall of 1888 she removed to Germantown, Pa. Her children :

- i. FREDERICKA MARY,
- ii. ANNE HOFFMAN, died young.
- iii. MARGARET, died young.

### CHILDREN OF JUDGE THOMAS McKEAN PETTIT. [15.]

45. MRS. ELIZABETH DALE (PETTIT) RONCKEN-DORF.—Born in Philadelphia, November 6, 1828; and was married in Philadelphia, July 31, 1856, to Commodore William

Ronckendorf, then a lieutenant in the navy. He was born in Pennsylvania, November 9, 1812; entered the navy as a midshipman, February 17, 1832. Schooner *Experiment*, on the coast 1832-3. Schooner *Porpoise* West Indies, 1833. Frigate *Constitution*, flagship of Commodore Elliot, Mediterranean, March, 1835; carried Lewis Cass, minister, from Marseilles to Constantinople. Transferred to John Adams, returned May, 1837. Passed midshipman, June 23, 1838; Brig Consort, coast survey, 1839-41; Sloop *Preble*, Mediterranean, Jan. '41-Aug. '43; Lieutenant, June 28, '43; Frigate *Congress*, July, '42, Mediterranean, and from Jan. '44 to March, '45, Brazil squadron. In 1845, bearer of dispatches to the Pacific squadron; served in the Mexican war, returning home in the *Savannah*, Sept. '47; Portsmouth, flagship Commodore Gregory, Africa, Sept. '49-June '51; Receiving ship at New York, 1852; Frigate *Cumberland*, flagship Commodore Stringham, Mediterranean, May, '52-'55; Navy Yard Philadelphia, '55-8; Commanding steamer *M. W. Chapin*, Brazil squadron, and Paraguay Expedition, 1859; Coast survey, 1860; Commander, June 29, 1861; Water Witch, Gulf squadron, 1861; San Jacinto, 1862-3, blockading Wilmington and at various points on the coast during the late war; Steamship *Ticonderoga*, '63, searching for privateers; *Powhatan*, '63-4; Iron-clads *Monadnock* and *Tonawanda* in James river, 1865-6; Receiving ship, Philadelphia, 1866; Captain September 27, 1866; In charge of iron-clads at New Orleans, 1871-2; *Canandaigua*, North Atlantic squadron, 1872-3; Commodore, February 12, 1874; Retired, November 9, 1874.<sup>1</sup>

Commodore Ronckendorf's home was in Philadelphia, but latterly the family has resided in New York, where Mrs. Ronckendorf died January 1, 1887. The Commodore still resides in that city.

Their children, all born in Philadelphia:—

- i. THOMAS PETTIT, b. May 10, 1857; d. Denver, Colo., Jan. 3, 1885.
- ii. GEORGE READ, b. Feb. 11, 1860; architect, New York city.
- iii. MARY, b. July 28, 1865; d. Media, Pa., Aug. 14, 1866.

46. RICHARD DALE PETTIT.—Born in Philadelphia, February 9, 1837. Graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, 1856; subsequently taking the master's degree. Studied law, and practiced his profession in Philadelphia. His death, April 30, 1873, was very melancholy; it occurred by

<sup>1</sup>*Appleton, Hamersly, etc.*



his own hand, on the morning of the day he was to have been married. No cause has been assigned for this act—his means were ample, he had no bad habits, and he looked forward to his marriage with great pleasure, and his passage had been secured for a bridal trip to Europe.

47. MRS. SARAH (PETTIT) WILSON.—Born in Philadelphia, February 18, 1839, and was married in Philadelphia May 24, 1869, to Joseph Miller Wilson. He was born in Phoenixville, Chester co., Pa., June 20, 1838; graduated at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y., in 1858, with the degree of Civil Engineer. After graduating, he became connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as Engineer of Bridges and Buildings, residing at Altoona until 1867, since which date he has resided in Philadelphia. He designed and built many large buildings for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, including the large Broad Street Station in Philadelphia. A few years ago he severed his connection with the railroad and opened an architect's office in Philadelphia, and has been quite successful in his profession. He is a member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, London, England; of the American Society of Civil Engineers; a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects; and a member of the American Philosophical Society, 1874. In 1877, the University of Pennsylvania honored him with the degree of Master of Science.

Mrs. Wilson has in her possession the portrait of Governor McKean, by Peale, which he presented to his daughter Elizabeth on the occasion of her marriage with Andrew Pettit. She has also a crayon likeness of Governor McKean's first wife, Mary Borden.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson:—

- i. ALICE MAY,      b. Phil., May 10, 1870; d. Phil., March 18, 1879
- ii. MARY HASELL, b. Phil., April 28, 1873.

### CHILDREN OF PAY-DIRECTOR ROBERT PETTIT. [17.]

48. HENRY PETTIT.—Born in Philadelphia, December 23, 1842. He entered the Department of Arts of the University of Pennsylvania in 1859, and is a member of the Delta Psi Fraternity. But left college in his junior year in 1862, to enter the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and subsequently became Assistant Engineer of Bridges and Build-

ings, taking a high rank as an architect and engineer for his ingenuity and talents in this position. In May, 1869, he was granted leave of absence to visit Europe, where he critically examined many of the more important engineering works in Great Britain, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and France, with a view to general improvement in future constructions upon the Pennsylvania Railroad. After his return home he designed the special form of wrought-iron girder bridge, which has since been generally adopted by the road as the permanent standard bridge. He also designed many of the prominent railroad stations and depots, which were executed as accepted types of their several kinds.

In 1873 he was selected as special agent of the Centennial Commission at Philadelphia to visit the Vienna Exposition. On his return in June, 1874, he brought a large collection of plans, designs, photographs, detailed drawings, etc., not only of the Vienna Exposition, but of all the previous ones. These plans, with his report, he handed over to the Centennial Commission. When plans for the various buildings were called for, Mr. Pettit sent in designs for all of the buildings. The vast amount of information gained abroad gave him a great advantage over other architects, and his plans of the Main Building and the Machinery Hall were accepted. It has been said also that his designs for the remaining buildings were preferred to those of other architects; but to have awarded all to one person would have caused much ill-feeling, therefore the smaller buildings were awarded to several architects. The Main Building for this Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia much exceeded in size any similar building heretofore erected. It was 1880 feet long and 464 feet wide, with projections on all four sides, covering 872,320 square feet, or 20.02 acres; the upper floors increased this to 936,008 square feet, or 21.47 acres. The Machinery Hall was 1402 feet long by 360 feet wide, with an annex 208 by 216 feet; the area, 558,440 square feet, or 12.82 acres; the galleries increased this to about 14 acres.

On the acceptance of his design for the Main Building, he was appointed by the Centennial Board of Finance their engineer and architect. In the construction of Machinery Hall, he was associated with Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, his connection.

When the officers of the Centennial Commission were appointed in January, 1875, Mr. Pettit was placed at the head of the Bureau of Installation; and upon him devolved the

duty not only of assigning the places for the exhibitors of the various nations, but the general direction and management of the numerous car-loads of exhibits themselves, as they arrived. His admirable and systematic management prevented all confusion, and contributed much to the general appearance of the Exposition. Subsequently, in January, 1877, he was appointed Chief of Bureau of Management of the Permanent Exhibition.

While traveling in Algeria during the winter of 1877-8, Mr. Pettit was appointed by the State Department to take charge of the United States Department for the French Universal Exposition of 1878. Upon reaching Paris, he was received by President McMahon as the representative of the United States, previous to the arrival of Governor McCormick; and superintended the construction of the American department. For his services here he was decorated by the French government.

In 1884-5, with his friend, Mr. George W. Bacon, he made a complete tour of the world. Improving his opportunities, he among other things made a study in the East of Hinduism in its relation to Christianity; which was embodied in a word upon the subject, and presented in numerous lectures both at home, in Bermuda, and in other places.<sup>1</sup>

For his connection with the Centennial and French Expositions, Mr. Pettit was decorated with several orders, being a *ridder* of St. Olaf, from King Oscar of Norway and Sweden; a *chevalier* of the Legion of Honor from France; a commander of Nichan Iftikhar from the Bey of Tunis; and a *caballero* of Ysabel la Catolica, from King Alfonso XIII. of Spain. The University of Pennsylvania also conferred upon him, in 1877, the honorary degree of Master of Science.

Mr. Pettit is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, an Associate of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, and a member of the Union League Club of Philadelphia. He is a gentleman of polished manners, and as a recreation from his professional duties he is devoted to the arts, a skillful musician, as well as a composer of vocal and instrumental music. For the last ten years he has kept bachelor hall with his friend, Mr. Bacon, in Philadelphia; their house being filled with numerous handsome and valuable mementos of their travels. Four years ago Mr. Pettit built a summer cottage at Island Heights on the Jersey Coast, near the mouth of Tom's River.

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<sup>1</sup> Partly from Frank Leslie's *Histor. Reg. U. S. Centen. Exp.*, 1876, in which is also a fair likeness of Mr. Pettit.

49. ROBERT ELLMAKER PETTIT.—Born in Philadelphia November 30, 1846. He graduated at the Episcopal Academy, Philadelphia, 1863, and the Polytechnic College, State of Pennsylvania, as a Civil Engineer in 1867, taking the master's degree three years later. In 1870 he entered the engineer corps of the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company, his talent and good judgment gaining for him rapid promotion to responsible positions. In 1874 he became engineer in charge of local improvements on the New York division. Two years later he became connected with the main system of the Pennsylvania Railroad; subsequently as principal assistant, and latterly as superintendent of the New York division, where he remained until 1885. During this term of service he resided at Pittsburgh, Altoona, Philadelphia and Jersey City, as his duties required; and constructed the Summit Tunnel for the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, the Verona shops for the Allegheny Valley Railroad, and the large terminal station at Jersey City. He was also called upon to meet several critical emergencies arising from floods, conflagrations, and labor strikes. Of the latter may be mentioned the notable riots at Pittsburgh in 1877, when \$4,000,000 of property was destroyed; and at Jersey City, in 1882, when the malcontents threatened to involve the whole labor element of the Middle States in forcible resistance to constituted authority. To Mr. Pettit's judicious management, the control of this latter crisis was in a great measure due.

In 1885, Mr. Pettit was appointed General Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Division, embracing the main line and branches between Philadelphia and Pittsburg, which position he now holds, residing at Altoona. He is a man of genial, cordial disposition, and a universal favorite with all classes, with whom his duties have brought him in contact. His taste for the arts have interested him in painting and photography.

He was married at Hollidaysburg, Pa., November 16, 1875, to Margaret Steel Blair, daughter of the Hon. Samuel Steel Blair and Sarah P., his wife, of that place, who was born at Hollidaysburg, April 9, 1852.<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Pettit died in Jersey City, N. J., March 6, 1884.

Their children:

- i. SARAH BLAIR, b. Hollidaysburg, Pa., Dec. 9, 1877.
- ii. ROBERT,           b. Altoona, Pa., May 20, 1881.

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<sup>1</sup> See *Hist. Huntingdon and Blair Cos., Pa.*, J. Simpson Africa, 1883.

**CHILDREN OF MRS. MARY ANN (BUCHANAN)  
COALE. [19.]**

50. WILLIAM EDWARD COALE, M. D.—Born in Baltimore February 7, 1816. He graduated at the Maryland University in 1836 as a doctor of medicine; licentiate of medicine, 1838.<sup>1</sup> He was appointed physician to the Baltimore General Dispensary 1836–7; and an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy September 6, 1837, passing number three in a class of forty. His first cruise was in the frigate *Columbia*, flagship of Commodore George C. Read, in the East Indies and around the world, April 1838–June 1840. On his return he was ordered to the Navy Yard at Boston, September 1840. Ordered again to the *Columbia*, flagship of Commodore Charles Stewart, Home Squadron, February 1842. Detached in June following and ordered to the steam frigate *Mississippi*, Home Squadron; detached the September following, and granted three months' leave. While stationed in Boston, he became engaged to a daughter of Dr. George C. Shattuck, who took him into partnership, and induced him to resign from the navy, which he did, his resignation being accepted January 25, 1843. The lady to whom he was engaged died before his marriage, but through her father's means he soon obtained a large and lucrative practice, eventually taking rank as one of the leading physicians in that city. During the late war, he volunteered his services to the Sanitary Commission, and for a time had charge of a large steamer conveying sick and other prisoners up James River to be exchanged; he was assisted in this duty by a corps of assistants. He returned home, sick, but as soon as he recovered, visited the army hospitals in Kentucky and Tennessee, as one of the special inspectors of the Sanitary Commission.

Dr. Coale is the author of a popular work, *Hints on Health*, Ticknor and Fields, Boston, 1857, which has passed through three editions; a treatise on Nosology, and an article on Tetanus in the *Md. Med. and Surg. Journal*, ii., 409, 1840.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>*The Med. and Chir. Fac. of Md.*, chartered in 1799, were empowered to require all who desired to practice medicine or surgery in that state to take out a license, irrespective of any diploma they might hold; and those to whom it was granted were termed licentiates of medicine. They latterly have allowed the exercise of this power to lapse, and lo! the quacks swarm like the locusts in Egypt.—*Letter of Dr. J. R. Quinan, Histriographer of the Society.*

<sup>2</sup>*Medical Annals of Balt.*, Dr. J. R. Quinan; Hamersly's *100 Years Reg. Navy*; Records of Navy Dept. (by permission); obituary, *Boston Courier*.

He was a member and for many years an officer of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and an instructor in the Harvard Medical School. In 1851 he joined the Scots Charitable Society of Boston—a society formed of Scotchmen and their descendants, founded in 1657, and incorporated 1786. He was vice-president for two years 1853–4; president for three years, 1856–7–8; trustee two years, 1859–60; secretary, 1861–2–3; and again trustee, 1864–5. In 1865 he was the author of a petition to the legislature to increase the membership. He was one of the founders of the parish of the Church of the Advent, and senior warden for many years up to the time of his death.

Dr. Coale in 1860 received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.

He was married, May 1, 1850, to Katharine Sewell Oliver, who was born September 6, 1828—the daughter of Daniel Oliver, M. D., LL. D. (Harvard, 1806), lecturer on medicine in Bowdoin College, and professor of medicine in Dartmouth College.<sup>1</sup> She died December 19, 1856, leaving one son. Dr. Coale married secondly, May 17, 1860, Elizabeth Thompson Bell, daughter of Hon. Joseph Bell; her mother's sister was the wife of the distinguished lawyer, Rufus Choate. By her Dr. Coale had no children. Dr. Coale died April 24, 1865, and was buried with impressive services in Mt. Auburn Cemetery. The Scots Charitable Society and the vestry of the Church of the Advent passed appropriate resolutions to his memory. The vestry subsequently erected a tablet to his memory in the church.

Dr. Coale was a man of jovial disposition, of extensive and varied information; a fluent talker who generally took the lead in a conversation; his fund of interesting information, of wit and anecdote, never failed to command the attention of his hearers. It has been remarked that he could converse upon almost any subject, and give information upon it.

His brother relates, that he was called in consultation one day to a patient who had run a needle into her body in close proximity to some large bloodvessels, where it would be dangerous to use the knife, especially as its exact location was unknown. Dr. Coale magnetized a fine needle, suspended it by the middle with a silk thread, and by holding it over the patient's body, it moved itself parallel to the imbedded needle;

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<sup>1</sup>See *Genealogy of Descendants of William Hutchinson and Thomas Oliver*, William H. Whitmore, Boston, 1865.

and by lowering the suspended needle one point dipped. He thus found out the position of the needle, and which end pointed upward. By gently squeezing the flesh the point appeared, and it was readily removed by the pincers; thus avoiding a dangerous operation. On another occasion he was called to a patient who had taken an overdose of laudanum. All efforts to awaken her had failed; and Dr. Coale remembering what he had read of the tortures of the Inquisition, made use of this knowledge, by arranging a vessel of water so that successive drops would fall from a height upon her forehead; the persistent regularity of the falling drops would become unbearable to a person in health, if continued for any length of time, and it soon caused a twitching of the muscles of the face; this gradually increased until the patient was awakened from her sleep.

Dr. Coale's only son, by his first wife, Katharine S. Oliver:

87. i. GEORGE OLIVER GEORGE, b. Boston, Sept. 10, 1853.

51. MRS. ANNE LÆTITIA (COALE) BRUNE.—Born in Baltimore, April 28, 1817. She was married April 5, 1836, to John Christian Brune, a merchant, the eldest son of Frederick W. Brune, and a member of the firm of F. W. Brune and Sons. The father was born in Bremen in 1776, and founded the present house in Baltimore in 1795. His eldest son was born in 1814, educated at Round Hill School, Northampton, Mass., declined to go to college; and at the age of twenty-one became a partner with his father. On the death of his father in 1860, he became the head of the firm. He took an active part in the formation of the Baltimore Board of Trade, and for over twelve years served as its President. He was also President of the Association for Relieving the Condition of the Poor.

Mr. Brune as a business man, amassed a large fortune; as well also as his brothers, who were members of the same firm. In 1856, he suffered an affliction in the death of his wife, while travelling abroad. She died July 26, 1856, at the Mitre Inn, High street, Oxford, England, and was buried in St. Peter's Church, East Oxford. So great was Mr. Brune's affection for her, that he directed one of his largest vessels to proceed to England and bring home her remains. The ship took out no cargo, and brought back nothing but her body. She had no children.

Mr. Brune had declined public offices, until the troubles of 1861 commenced, when he was elected to the legislature, to meet in May, 1861. A special session had already been con-

vened, but some members of Southern sympathies were not allowed by the military forces to take their seats. A special election was therefore called, at which Mr. Brune was elected. He was also strongly Southern in his sympathies. When the Massachusetts troops were fired upon in Baltimore, Mayor Brown wrote to President Lincoln, urging him to prevent other troops from passing through the city; and appointed Judge Hugh L. Bond, J. C. Brune and Geo. W. Dobbin a committee to see the President, and upon invitation of Mr. Lincoln these gentlemen proceeded to Washington; but not much was accomplished by them.<sup>1</sup>

As the political troubles increased, the legislature in September, being composed of a majority of Southern sympathizers, was about to pass an ordinance of secession, when General Dix on the 12th of September ordered the arrest of fourteen of the most influential members, including Mr. Brune and Mayor Brown, besides a number of others.<sup>2</sup> This wholesale arrest by the military authorities caused much excitement. Of all these persons, it is said that but two escaped arrest. Mr. Brune was at his club, but his colored man Charles, suspecting the errand of two persons who called at the house, entertained them with the best of wine and cigars, saying Mr. Brune would doubtless be back soon. He then slipped out and warned Mr. Brune to leave, came back and gave the men more wine and cigars, and thus detained them until Mr. Brune had left the city.

A few days after, Charles packed Mr. Brune's trunk and forwarded it to him in Canada. As a sequel to this incident, the authorities on the border, seeing the initials J. C. B. on the trunk, seized it under the impression that it belonged to the Hon. John C. Breckinridge, who had lately disappeared from Kentucky, and was "wanted" by the government. It is believed that this seizure gave rise to the report, about this time, that Mr. Breckinridge had gone to Canada, whereas he had gone south.

After this, Mr. Brune never set foot in this country again, although he could have returned had he so desired. He spent his summers in Canada, and the winters in Cuba and the West Indies. He died at sea, December 7, 1864, while on his way to Cuba, on board H. B. M. Mail steamer Tasmania, of disease of the heart, resulting in brain fever. A likeness of Mr.

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<sup>1</sup> *Balt. and the 19th of April*, 1861, Geo. W. Brown, Balt., 1887; also Scharf's *Chronicles of Balt.*, 1874.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*



Brune is given in Brantz Mayer's *Baltimore Past and Present, Historical and Biographical*.

52. GEORGE BUCHANAN COALE.—Born in Baltimore, March 5, 1819. He began life as a clerk in the Union Bank, Baltimore, when about eighteen years of age. He was Secretary of the Merchants' Fire Insurance Company, until it was changed to the Merchants' Mutual Marine Insurance Company, when he became its President. He was an insurance agent, and for a number of years represented the Hartford Insurance Company of Connecticut, and the Home of New York. In former years he also represented other companies. Some years ago he took into partnership his son, George William Coale, under the name of George B. Coale and Son. Mr. Coale was married October 10, 1855, to Caroline Dorsey, daughter of Dr. Robert Edward Dorsey, Professor of Materia Medica in the University of Maryland. Mr. Coale died on his sixty-eighth birthday, March 5, 1887, and is buried at Greenmount Cemetery.

Like his brother, he was a man of considerable information, a great reader, and the possessor of a retentive memory. He had excellent artistic and literary tastes; and was regarded as an authority when he expressed his opinion. He was the oldest insurance agent in Baltimore, being greatly respected by his business confreres. He was one of the leading members, and a director of the Wednesday Club, a member of the Athenæum Club and the Maryland Club, and a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. His children, all except the first named, born in Baltimore:

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| i. EDWARD JOHNSON,       | b. Elk Ridge, July 31, 1856; d. Aug. 15, 1856, Elk Ridge. |
| 88. ii. ROBERT DORSEY,   | b. Sept. 13, 1857.  |
| 89. iii. GEORGE WILLIAM, | b. Dec. 23, 1859.   |
| 90. iv. MARY BUCHANAN,   | b. June 29, 1861 (Mrs. Redwood).                          |
| v. EDWARD,               | b. March 6, 1863; d. Sept. 15, 1865, Elk R.               |
| vi. GRAFTON DORSEY,      | b. June 12, 1864; d. June 29, 1864, Balt.                 |
| vii. CAROLINE DONALDSON, | b. June 28, 1875; d. Nov. 26, 1878, Balt.                 |

53. MRS. MARIANNA BUCHANAN (COALE) BROWN.—Born in Baltimore March 5, 1831. She was married in Baltimore June 1, 1871, to Thomas R. Brown, Sr., of that city. He was a farmer, and this his second marriage. He died in Baltimore December 25, 1871, leaving children by his first wife, but none by his second wife. Mrs. Brown resides in Baltimore.

**CHILDREN OF GEN. GEORGE BUCHANAN. [21.]**

54. **CAPTAIN EVAN MILES BUCHANAN, U. S. A.**—Born at Auchentorlie, his father's place, in Centre county, Pa., April 14, 1834. He was educated as a civil engineer, and engaged successfully in that profession until offered, in 1860, the position of captain's clerk by his relative Commodore, then Captain, McKean, commanding the steam frigate Niagara. The advantages of foreign travel in so pleasant a cruise to the Mediterranean and East Indies, decided him to accept the appointment. On his return in April, 1861, the civil war was breaking out; and when General McClellan was appointed to the command of the Army of the Potomac, he appointed Mr. Buchanan his Military Secretary. He acted as such until March 24, 1862, when he was appointed a captain and commissary of subsistence in the United States Army, and being retained on General McClellan's staff, was with him during the seven days' battles before Richmond in June, 1862, as aid and commissary of subsistence; and it was under his immediate supervision that all the live-stock of the army—above 2700 head of cattle—were removed from the Chickahominy to the James River. For five months he was on the staff of General Morrill on the upper Potomac. In March, 1863, he was transferred to the staff of General Whipple, 3d Division, 3d Army Corps; and after the battle of Gettysburg, July, 1863, became chief commissary of this division, and continued with it after its transfer to the 6th Corps, participating in all the campaigns under General Grant, from Culpepper to Petersburg. In July, 1862, the division was transferred to General Sheridan's command in the Shenandoah Valley. Captain Buchanan left Harper's Ferry September 27, 1864, with a train of supplies for his division. That evening he and his orderly were captured by guerillas while resting at a house, and were not heard from until four weeks later, when it was ascertained that they had been shot through the head, probably while asleep. The bodies were discovered about a week after the murder. The day of his death is regarded by his family as September 27, but is noted in the army registers as September 30, 1864, near Brooks' Furnace, Va. Captain Buchanan was unmarried; his body was brought home, and interred in Bellefonte, Pa.

55. **MRS. LÆTITIA GEORGE (BUCHANAN) EVERETT.**—Born at Auchentorlie, Centre Co., Penn., October 27,

1835. She adopted the middle name of *George*, as there were three others named Lætitia Buchanan; but the name does not appear in the family Bible. She was married in Philadelphia by the Rt. Rev. William Bacon Stevens, November 21 (not 19), 1864, to Edward Franklin Everett, of Charlestown, Mass. The wedding was set for the 19th, but Mr. Everett, who was in the army, did not arrive until the 21st, on which day the wedding occurred. The 19th is, however, the date recorded in the family Bible, in the newspaper notice, and in the *N. E. Hist. and Genealogical Register*, xix., 77.

Mr. Everett was born in Northfield, Mass., May 28, 1840. Resided in Charlestown, graduated at Harvard University in 1860, and A. M.; was Recording Secretary of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, 1862. Entered the volunteer army in the Massachusetts 5th Regiment, September, 1862; 2d Heavy Artillery, June, '63; 2d lieutenant July, '63; on staff duty; mustered out, Sept., '65. He has since been in the insurance business in Boston.<sup>1</sup>

Mrs. Everett died at Auchentorlie, September 17, 1866, having had one child; (Mr. Everett has married a second time). Her issue:

- i. *A child*, still-born, Sept. 10, 1866.

56. THOMAS MCKEAN BUCHANAN, LIEUT. COMMANDER U. S. N.—Born in Bellefonte, Centre Co., Penn., September 18, 1837. He was appointed an acting midshipman October 1, 1851, entering the Naval Academy. He stood well in his class and graduated June 9, 1855, becoming a midshipman; and cruised in the *Constellation* and the *Congress* in the Mediterranean, July, '55—Jan. '58. Passed midshipman April 15, 1858. Master, Nov. 4, '58. Ordered to take passage to join the steam frigate *Merrimac*, then in the Pacific, April, 1858, reporting on board May 14th; transferred to the sloop *St. Mary's* the same year; detached, January, 1861. Lieutenant, July 18, 1860. Ordered to the steam frigate *Mississippi*, April, 1861, in the West Gulf Squadron.

In December, 1861, the *Mississippi* was at Ship Island, Miss., which was evacuated by the Confederates on her approach. Lieutenant Buchanan was sent on shore with a de-

<sup>1</sup> *Harv. Univ. in the War*, F. A. Brown; Appleton's *Cyclop. of Biog.*, 1888.

tachment of men to garrison and command the fort, built and evacuated by the Confederates. General Phelps, who soon after arrived there with a brigade of troops, issued a proclamation Dec. 4, 1861, to the people of the southwest, which caused great dissatisfaction, not only among the naval officers but among his own officers and troops: Captain Melancthon Smith, commanding the Mississippi, refused General Phelps a boat so that the proclamation could be posted on the main land; and lieutenant Buchanan also declined to allow it to be posted or read on Ship Island while he was in command there. On December 26, Ship Island was turned over to General Phelps; and lieutenant Buchanan was put in command of the captured prize steamer Lewis, with a hundred seamen.

Lieutenant Buchanan was promoted to be a lieutenant commander, July 16, 1862, a new grade then established. He was for a time in command of the steam frigate Mississippi, then as executive officer of the gunboat New London, the captain of this vessel being sick most of the time, Buchanan was virtually in command; this vessel was so active in the inland waters, that she received the soubriquet of the *Black Devil* of the Mississippi Sound.<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant commander Buchanan subsequently commanded the gunboat Calhoun.

Admiral Farragut writes from Pensacola about September, 1862: "Lieutenant Commander McKean Buchanan, with light draft steamers, had been operating successfully in Berwick Bay and Atchafalaya River." And again, from New Orleans, November 14, 1862, to the Secretary of the Navy, he encloses Lieutenant Commander Buchanan's report, saying, "He is commanding the naval forces co-operating with the army in Opelousas, and had already two fights with the enemy's steamers and land forces."<sup>2</sup>

Early in January, 1864, an expedition to Berwick Bay was organized under General Weitzel, numbering 5000 men, with 21 pieces of artillery. Commodore Buchanan (as he was called by courtesy, on account of his commanding a squadron of vessels), commanded the naval forces, consisting of the Calhoun, flagship, Estrella, Kinsman and Diana. While ascending Bayou Teche, January 14, 1863, a torpedo exploded under the Kinsman, which vessel then dropped astern. Commodore Buchanan passed ahead in the Calhoun, and finding the vessel impeded by obstructions, went forward in an exposed

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<sup>1</sup>*Annual Cyclop.*, 1863, p. 696.

<sup>2</sup>*Life*, by Loyall Farragut, 1879.

position, and was at once an object for sharpshooters on the bank. He was soon struck in the head, and fell dead on the deck. The expedition was a failure,<sup>1</sup> resulting only in the destruction of a Confederate steamer *Cotton* (which was burnt by the Confederates), and returned to New Orleans. Commodore Buchanan was interred in the cemetery there January 17, his funeral being attended by Admiral Farragut, General Banks and staff, and all the principal naval officers in port.

Lieutenant Commander Buchanan was a brave officer. His daring courage and activity while in command of these light draft steamers, made his name widely known throughout that part of the country. He was young to have command of a squadron, being only a little over 25 years of age when killed. The command of a squadron at so youthful an age, is alone evidence of the estimation in which he was held by his superiors. Admiral Farragut, writing home, mentions his death as follows, January 15th: "Yesterday was a sad day for me. I went to see Banks; he handed me a dispatch from the bar, announcing the loss of the *Hatteras*. When I came on board, I received another, telling me of the death of one of my bravest and most dashing officers, Lt.-Commander Buchanan, son of Paymaster Buchanan, and nephew of Frank."<sup>2</sup>

Lieutenant Commander Buchanan died unmarried, and his remains were subsequently sent to Bellefonte, Pa.

### CHILDREN OF PAY DIRECTOR MCKEAN BUCHANAN. [22.]

57. ROBERDEAU BUCHANAN.—*The author and compiler of this Genealogy*.—Born in Philadelphia, November 22, 1839. Removed with the family to Brooklyn, N. Y., when two years of age, and to Charlestown, Mass., in 1851; consequent upon his father's duties in the navy. Educated in English branches at the grammar and high schools in Charlestown, where he resided; and in mathematics at the Lawrence Scientific School, Harvard University; graduating in 1861, as a Bachelor in Science in the department of civil engineering. Entered upon his profession, as an assistant engineer in the construction of water works for the supply of Charlestown, 1862–5, the works being completed in three years at a cost of

<sup>1</sup>*The Mississippi*, F. V. Green, p. 214.

<sup>2</sup>*Life*, by Loyal Farragut. Mistake in relationship, see App. II., 56.

one million of dollars. Appointed chief engineer to extend these works for the supply of the city of Chelsea, 1867: the water being conveyed in pipes across Mystic River, three-fourths of a mile wide, and through inverted syphons under the two draw-ways in the road bridge. Appointed in 1868, to lay a system of pipes for the further extension of these works, for the supply of the town of Somerville. Appointed to a position in the U. S. Patent Office at Washington, September, 1872, to April, 1877, and removed to that city, where he has since resided.

In May, 1879, he became connected with the office of the *American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac*, under the distinguished astronomer, Professor Simon Newcomb, LL. D., Ph. D., U. S. Navy. This work, published annually, is issued three years in advance; the nautical part being for the use of navigators; the astronomical, for the Naval Observatory at Washington, and for other observatories and astronomers throughout the country. It is a similar work to the *Connaissance des Temps* of France; the *British Nautical Almanac* of England; the *Almanaque Nautico* of Spain; and the *Berliner Astronomisches Jahrbuch* of Germany; which are the five "principal astronomical and nautical ephemerides of the world; but there are a number of minor publications."<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Buchanan's duties in this office, are the computation and preparation of the ephemerides of the planets Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune; the Besselian and Independent Star-Numbers, for the reduction of the positions of the fixed stars; and the computation of the solar and lunar eclipses, with charts showing the portions of the earth within which the eclipses are visible.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Professor Simon Newcomb, *Address before the Naval Institute*, 1879.

<sup>2</sup> From the latest issue, that for 1892, Appendix, p. 521:—

"The principal computations of the ephemeris have been distributed in the following manner:—

"The ephemeris of the sun was computed by the late Mr. EASTWOOD; the moon's longitude, latitude, semidiameter and horizontal parallax, by Professor KEITH; the right ascension and declination by Professor VAN VLECK; the culminations, by Mr. MEIER; the lunar distances by Mr. BRADFORD; Mercury and Venus, by Mr. E. P. AUSTIN; Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, by Mr. ROBERDEAU BUCHANAN; Jupiter's satellites, by Prof. H. D. TODD; the satellites of Mars, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, by Dr. MORRISON. The mean and apparent places of the fixed stars were prepared by Mr. ENGLISH and Mr. HEDRICK; the general constants for their reduction, by Mr. BUCHANAN; the occultations, by Mr. J. O. WIESSNER and Mr. AUHAGEN; and the eclipses were computed and the charts projected by Mr. BUCHANAN." A similar paragraph is appended to each addition.

Besides the above, Mr. Buchanan has at various times assisted in the computation, and other preparation, of some of the special works published by this office; of which may chiefly be mentioned, the *Theory of Mercury with New Tables*, by Professor Newcomb, not yet published.

He is the author of a *Report on Bridge Construction and Inverted Syphons*, Chelsea, 1868; *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, 1876; *Genealogy of the Descendants of Dr. William Shippen the Elder*, 1877.

He was married at Georgetown, D. C., September 12, 1888, to Eliza M. Peters, daughter of Hester A. and the late Thomas Peters, who was son of Thomas and nephew of Judge Richard Peters, of Philadelphia, Secretary of War during the Revolution. William Peters, father of these two latter, was a brother of Richard Peters, the Provincial Councillor; he purchased Belmont in 1742, and in 1745 erected the present mansion house, which bears his monogram and date on the gable. In the large hall on the lower floor, his arms—a *bend between two escallops*—may still be seen in stucco work on the ceiling.<sup>1</sup> The land and mansion are now part of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia. On her mother's side Mrs. Buchanan is descended from Sir Charles Burdett,<sup>2</sup> an English baronet, who married a daughter of Charles Wyndham of Stokesby, ancestor to the Earl of Egremont. A grand-daughter of this marriage came to this country, renounced her Christian faith, and married the Rev. Rabbi Abraham H. Cohen, M. D., of Richmond and Baltimore. They were the parents of Mrs. Peters. The mother and her children subsequently left the Jewish faith.<sup>3</sup>

58. MRS. LÆTITIA McKEAN (BUCHANAN) FIFE.—Born in Brooklyn, N. Y., December 24, 1842; removed to Charlestown, Mass., in 1851, with her father's family; and was married in that city, October 3, 1867, to George S. Fife, an assistant surgeon in the navy. She died in Charlestown, July 20, 1871, and is buried near her father in Mt. Auburn Cemetery. She was a person of pleasing manner, and a favorite among a large circle of friends. In her disposition she

<sup>1</sup>A fac-simile is given in *The Continent* for April 25, 1883, vol. iii., 521—*The Right to Bear Arms*, by F. W. Leach.

<sup>2</sup>Sir Charles married secondly Sarah Halsey, from whom the present baronet is descended. (*Burke's Peerage*.)

<sup>3</sup>See *Historic Mansions of Philadelphia*, T. Westcott, for a description of Belmont. Mrs. Cohen's autobiography is a little work entitled *Henry Luria*.

possessed much original wit and humor, and seldom forgot the name or face of a person she had once seen, even after the lapse of several years.<sup>1</sup> Her children:—

91. i. GEORGE BUCHANAN, b. Aug. 9, 1869.

ii. SELINA, b. July 18, 1871; d. next day.

### CHILDREN OF ADMIRAL FRANKLIN BUCHANAN. [23.]

59. MRS. SALLIE LLOYD (BUCHANAN) SCREVEN.—Born in Annapolis, December 18, 1835. She was married at St. John's Chapel, near "The Rest," October 30, 1866, to Thomas Forman Screven, of Savannah, Georgia. He was born in Savannah, April 19, 1834; graduated at the University of Georgia 1852; A. M.; and graduated also at the Savannah Medical College. He is a planter at Savannah; and had previously been married at Athens, Ga., November 26, 1860, to Ade V. D. Moore, daughter of Dr. Richard D. Moore, who died in Athens, Ga., February 7, 1865, in her 31st year. By her he has two children, Richard Moore and John; but no children to his second wife.

60. MRS. NANNIE (BUCHANAN) MEIERE.—Born in Annapolis, September 25, 1841. She and her twin sister were formerly so much alike that strangers could not distinguish them apart. Even their father could not always tell one from the other, and adopted the common name, Nan-Ellen. She was married at the Washington Navy Yard, April 3, 1861, to Lieutenant Julius Ernest Meiere, of the United States Marine Corps. The President and all the principal officers of the navy and army attended the wedding. Lieutenant Meiere entered the service April 16, 1855, and resigned to take sides with the South during the late war; his resignation was not accepted, and he was dismissed, May 6, 1861. He entered the Confederate marine corps, and finally was one of the garrison of Fort Morgan, Mobile, when that post was surrendered. He left his family and went west; his wife obtained a divorce July 6, 1885, for desertion. Mrs. Meiere for some years past has resided at Tunis Mills, Talbot co., Md. Her children:

i. NANNIE LLOYD, b. "The Rest," June 7, 1862.

92. ii. ERNEST, b. "Fairview," Talbot Co., March 5, 1866.

iii. ELLEN BUCHANAN, b. "The Rest," Oct. 3, 1870.

iv. THOMAS McKEAN, b. Myersdale, Pa., Oct. 9, 1877.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Fife subsequently left the navy, and has been for several years in California, where he has married a second time.



61. MRS. ELLEN (BUCHANAN) SCREVEN.—Born at Annapolis, Md., September 25, 1841. She was married at "The Rest," June 5, 1861, to George Proctor Screven, of Savannah, Ga., brother of Thomas F. Screven, who afterwards married her sister. He was born on Wilmington Island, near Savannah, April 14, 1839, and was a rice planter at Savannah. At the close of the war he lived for a few years in Baltimore. He died at Savannah, October 5, 1876. His widow now lives in Savannah. Their children:—

- i. FRANKLIN BUCHANAN, b. Athens, Ga., March 11, 1862.
- ii. MARY, b. Savannah, Feb. 13, 1864; d. Balt., March 9, 1869.
- iii. MURRAY LLOYD, b. Fairview, Dec. 2, 1866.
- iv. GEORGE PROCTOR, JR., b. Baltimore, Jan. 12, 1869; d. Tybee Island, Oct. 5, 1876.
- v. ELLEN BUCHANAN, b. Baltimore, Oct. 23, 1871.
- vi. NANNIE LLOYD, b. "The Rest," May 19, 1877; *posthumous*.

62. MRS. ELIZABETH TAYLOE (BUCHANAN) SULLIVAN.—Born at "The Rest," near Easton, Md., July 1, 1845. She was married November 17, 1868, in St. John's Chapel, near "The Rest," to Felix Robertson Sullivan, of Baltimore, who was born in that city November 2, 18—. He graduated at Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., in 1866; and is in the insurance business in Baltimore. Their children:

- i. MARY, b. Baltimore, Aug. 19, 1869.
93. ii. FRANKLIN BUCHANAN, b. "The Rest," June 27, 1871.
- iii. FELIX ROBERTSON, JR., b. Baltimore, Nov. 7, 1874.
- iv. NANNIE LLOYD, b. Baltimore, May 4, 1876.

63. FRANKLIN BUCHANAN, JR.—Born at Annapolis, January 16, 1847. He was educated at the Maryland Agricultural College and Easton Academy. Removed to Savannah, Ga., in 1871, and entered into business as a merchant, and since 1879 has been in business on his own account as a rice broker, in which he has been very successful, having been for some years perhaps the largest rice broker in that city, disposing of 250,000 bushels annually.

64. MRS. ROSA (BUCHANAN) GOLDSBOROUGH.—Born at "The Rest," August 23, 1850. She was married November 15, 1882, to Charles Goldsborough. He was born at "Myrtle Grove," Maryland, in 1845;<sup>1</sup> graduated at the Maryland Agricultural College, and became a civil engineer. He

<sup>1</sup>For his ancestry and family, see *Old Kent*, by George A. Hanson.

has been engaged upon the Baltimore and Ohio, and the Maryland Central Railroads. He resided for a time at Chester, Pa., but is now in Baltimore.

65. MRS. MARY TILGHMAN (BUCHANAN) OWEN.—Born at "The Rest," November 29, 1852. She was married at St. John's Chapel, June 10, 1873, to William Tilghman Owen, of "Hawkesworth," Talbot Co., Md., where he was born February 14, 1849.<sup>1</sup> He is a merchant in Savannah, whither he removed with his family in 1877. Their children:

- i. KENNEDY RIDDELL, b. Hawkesworth, March 12, 1874.
- ii. NANNIE BUCHANAN, b. Hawkesworth, Aug. 31, 1875.
- iii. FRANKLIN BUCHANAN, b. "The Rest," Sept. 27, 1882.

#### **CHILD OF MRS. SUSAN (BUCHANAN) NEWMAN. [24.]**

66. WILLIAM HENRY NEWMAN.—Born, according to his own statement, in Baltimore, November 26, 1823. He was educated at the Flushing Institute, Long Island; and was a grain merchant, removing in 1847 from Baltimore to New York. He was married in July, 1847, at Newport, R. I., to Gertrude Minturn, daughter of Jonas Minturn; she died March 4, 1864, on Staten Island. Mr. Newman was married secondly, in New York, October 18, 1866, to Ellen Stewart Rogers, born February 21, 1828, daughter of the distinguished physician Dr. John Kearney Rogers, of New York, and Mary Ridgely Nicholson his wife, of the eastern shore of Maryland. Mr. Newman died in New York, January 11, 1887, without issue.

#### **ONLY CHILD OF MRS. MARY (BUCHANAN) SANFORD. [25.]**

67. ROBERT SANFORD.—Born in Albany, N. Y., December 10, 1831. He graduated at Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., in 1855; while in college he was a member of the *Phi Beta Kappa* fraternity. After graduating, he took up the study of law; residing for a short time in Flushing, and in New York city, but for several years past in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He was married at "Edgewood," Hyde Park, Dutchess Co., N. Y., May 23, 1867, to Helen Mary

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<sup>1</sup> For his family, see *Old Kent*, by George A. Hanson.

Hooker Stuyvesant. She was born at Edgewood, January 12, 1841, and is descended from several families well known in the civil and social history of New York.

Her grandfather Nicholas William Stuyvesant, a lineal descendant of Governor Petrus Stuyvesant, married Katharine Livingston Reade, descended in two lines from Philip Livingston, Signer of the Declaration of Independence, and had: John Reade Stuyvesant, who married Mary Austin Yates (daughter of Andrew Yates, Prof. Logic and Moral Philos. in Union College, grandson of Colonel Christopher Yates, killed at the battle of Saratoga, and Hannah Allen Hooker, a lineal descendant of Thomas Hooker the Puritan.) Their daughter was Helen Mary H. Stuyvesant, above named. Children of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford, all born at Poughkeepsie:

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| i. MARY BUCHANAN,      | b. Feb. 17, 1869. |
| ii. HENRY GANSEVOORT,  | b. Aug. 29, 1871. |
| iii. HELEN STUYVESANT, | b. Oct. 29, 1873. |
| iv. STUYVESANT,        | b. Jan. 26, 1876. |
| v. DÉSIKÉ MCKEAN,      | b. March 1, 1884. |

### CHILDREN OF MRS. ANN MCKEAN (BUCHANAN) WADE. [27.]

68. MRS. JOHNNANNA (WADE) BARLOW. Born at Fort Severn, Annapolis, March 30, 1826. She was married first to William Habersham, and secondly at Elizabeth, N. J., September 16, 1872, to Averill Barlow, who was born in Woodstock, Conn., January 13, 1822. They reside in Philadelphia, where Mr. Barlow is in mercantile life.

69. MRS. SARAH ELIZABETH MERRYMAN (WADE) THOMAS.—Born at Fort Trumbull, New London, January 5, 1828. She was married in Savannah, Georgia, November 9, 1857, to William W. Thomas, then residing in New York, but now of Elizabeth, New Jersey, where his ancestors have lived for over a century. He is a custom house broker in New York. Mrs. Thomas died March 21, 1888. Their children:

- |                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 94. i. GEORGE CUMMINS,    |       |
| ii. RICHARD WADE,         | dead. |
| 95. iii. WILLIAM PROVOST, |       |
| iv. ROBERT MCKEAN.        |       |

70. WILLIAM WADE.—Born April 25, 1831. He is in mercantile life in Savannah, Georgia, as a superintendent

of the Savannah Cotton Press Association, and president of the United Hydraulic Cotton Press Company. He was married in Savannah, November 28, 1861, to Susan Robinson Pendergast, who was born on Whitemar's Island, near Savannah, July 23, 1841. Their children, all born in Savannah:

- i. RICHARD DEAN ARDEN, b. April 15, 1863.
- ii. HARRIET MURRAY, b. April 2, 1867.
- iii. WILLIAM OGDEN, b. May 18, 1872.

71. CAPT. ROBERT BUCHANAN WADE, LATE U. S. ARMY.—Born August 1, 1844. He was appointed a cadet at large at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, July 1, 1861; graduated and appointed a 2d lieutenant of the 17th Infantry, June 23, 1865; 1st lieutenant the same day; captain September 29, 1867; unassigned, March 27, 1869, and on duty at headquarters of the 1st military district; professor of military science in the Missouri State College at Columbia, Mo.; discharged December 31, 1870, with about three hundred others, under an act of Congress reducing the army.<sup>1</sup> Captain Wade was married at St. Louis, Mo., August 27, 1868, to Isabel Neff Budd, daughter of George K. Budd, formerly of Philadelphia, and Rebecca his wife, daughter of Hannah (Neff) Patterson, for whose family, reference may be had to the *Neff Genealogy*, by Elizabeth Clifford Neff, 1886. Mr. Budd is a financial and real estate agent in St. Louis, Mo., who subsequently took his son-in-law into partnership with him, under the name of Budd and Wade. Captain Wade died in Chicago, Illinois, where he was temporarily sojourning, January 8, 1884. His widow still resides in St. Louis. Their children, all born in St. Louis:—

- i. ROBERT BUDD, b. Oct. 26, 1869.
- ii. GEORGE K. B., b. Nov. 4, 1872.
- iii. McKEAN BUCHANAN, b. Sept. 27, 1879; d. St. Louis, May 26, 1883.

### CHILDREN OF SENOR DON CARLOS FERNANDO MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y McKEAN, MAR- QUIS DE CASA YRUJO AND DUKE DE SOTOMAYOR. [29.]

72. SEÑOR DON CARLOS MANUEL MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y ALCAZAR, THIRD AND PRESENT MARQUIS DE CASA YRUJO, Y DE LOS ARCOS.—Born in London while his father was

<sup>1</sup> Cullom's *Register of West Point*; Hamersly's *Army Reg. for 100 Years*, etc.

Spanish Minister at that Court, April 5, 1846. He was educated in Madrid, and at Stonyhurst College, England, where he obtained the gold medal for proficiency in the study of Philosophy. In 1864 he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts at the Madrid University, passing as first class (*sobresaliente*). Entered the diplomatic service, and was Attaché and Third Secretary to the Spanish Legation in London, retiring from the service in 1867. From 1868 to 1875, he withdrew from active political and public life, but was present at the abdication of Queen Isabella the II, subscribing as a witness thereto. He supported invariably the cause of her son and heir to the throne of Spain, the Prince of Asturias, afterwards King Alfonso XII.

After the proclamation of Alfonso XII, on the occasion of the Prince of Wales' official visit to his late Majesty in 1876, the Marquis was sent on a special mission, and received the Prince at Seville in behalf of King Alfonso.

The Marquis entered the Cortez in 1878, and sat in the conservative interest for Cuidad-Rodrigo, in two successive parliaments. In 1884 he was elected a Senator by the Province of Logroño; which position gives him the title of Excellency.

He is a knight of the order of Santiago, a Maestrante de Zaragoza, and a *Gentilhombre de Camara* to H. C. Majesty. Upon the death of his younger brother, he succeeded to the title of Marquis de los Arcos; and is heir to the dukedom of Sotomayor.

The Marquis de Casa Yrujo was married in Madrid May 28, 1876, to DOÑA MARIA CARO Y SZECHENYI, who was born in Madrid, September 29, 1853, daughter of Don Pedro Caro y Alvarez de Toledo, Marquis de la Romana, Grandee of Spain of the first class, by his wife, neé Countess Szechenyi in Hungary. The Marquis de Casa Yrujo resides in Madrid, and has issue (surname Martinez de Yrujo y Caro):

- |                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 96. i. DON CARLOS,            | b. Madrid, July 24, 1877.        |
| ii. DOÑA MARIA YSABEL,        | b. Madrid, April 25, 1879.       |
| iii. DOÑA MARIA DE LA PIEDAD, | b. San Sebastian, July 29, 1880. |
| iv. DOÑA MARIA DEL ROSARIO,   | b. Madrid, Oct. 2, 1881.         |
| v. DON PEDRO,                 | b. Madrid, Oct. 3, 1882.         |
| vi. DON JUAN.                 | b. Madrid, Dec. 3, 1883.         |
| vii. DON LUIS,                | b. Madrid, Jan. 15, 1886.        |

73. DON MANUEL MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y ALCAZAR, MARQUIS DE LOS ARCOS.—Born at St. Germain en Laye in France, June 23, 1849, while his father was Am-

bassador to France. His title was created in 1653. He died in Madrid unmarried, September 22, 1864; when the title devolved upon his elder brother, the Marquis de Casa Yrujo.

74. DOÑA MARIA DE LA PIEDAD MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y ALCAZAR, VISCOUNTESS DE BENAESA.—Born in Paris, April 27, 1851. Married in Madrid, April 3, 1880, to Don PEDRO CARO y Szechenyi, Viscount de Benaesa, eldest son to the Marquis de la Romana, and own brother to the present Marchioness de Casa Yrujo. They reside in Madrid, and have issue: (surname Caro y Martinez de Yrujo,)

- |                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| i. DON PEDRO,                | b. Madrid, Dec. 20, 1881. |
| ii. DOÑA MARIA DE LA PIEDAD, | b. Madrid, Jan. 20, 1884. |
| iii. DON LUIS GABRIEL,       | b. Madrid, Jan. 8, 1887.  |

75. DOÑA MARIA DE LAS VIRTUDES MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y ALCAZAR, COUNTESS DE LAMBERTYE.—Born in Madrid, November 2, 1852; married in Madrid May 24, 1882, to Henri Ferdinard Edmund, Count de Lambertye, in France. They reside in Paris, and have issue: (surname *de Lambertye*,)

- |   |
|---|
| i. Monsieur CHARLES, b. Madrid, Feb. 12, 1883.  |
| ii. Monsieur MANUEL, b. Madrid, March 15, 1884. |

### ONLY CHILD OF HENRY PRATT McKEAN. [30.]

76. THOMAS McKEAN.—Born in Philadelphia, November 28, 1842. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1862; and subsequently took the master's degree. He is a director of the Insurance Company of North America, fire and marine; of the Fidelity Insurance Trust and Safe Deposit Company, and of the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society. He was married September 24, 1863, to Elizabeth Wharton, daughter of the Hon. George M. Wharton, who was born in Philadelphia, December 12, 1844. Her pedigree may be found in the *Genealogy of the Wharton Family*, by Anne H. Wharton, 1880; also in the *Pennsylvania Magazine* vols. i. and ii. Mr. and Mrs. McKean reside in Philadelphia, No. 1925 Walnut street. Their issue, all born in Philadelphia:

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 97. i. HENRY PRATT, | b. Jan. 12, 1866.                           |
| ii. THOMAS, JR.,    | b. April 29, 1869.                          |
| iii. MARIA WHARTON, | b. April 18, 1870.                          |
| iv. GEORGE WHARTON, | b. July 20, 1872; d. Phila., Jan. 20, 1875. |
| v. PHEBE WARREN,    | b. July 8, 1874.                            |

**CHILD OF MRS. SARAH ANN (McKEAN),  
TROTT. [31.]**

77. MRS. SARAH McKEAN (TROTT) HAZLEHURST.—Born in Philadelphia, December 8, 1835, and married December 2, 1857, to James W. Hazlehurst, now of the Fidelity Trust Company, Philadelphia. Their issue :

- i. GEORGE TROTT,      b. Phila. Oct. 18, 1858 ; d. at Nice, France, Dec. 10, 1881.
- 98. ii. ELIZABETH BORIE, b. Phila., June 1, 1861 (Mrs. Lammot).
- iii. HENRY McKEAN,    b. Phila., Dec. 27, 1867.
- iv. ALICE,              b. Phila., May 20, 1871.

**CHILDREN OF MRS. CLEMENTINA S. (McKEAN)  
BORIE. [33.]**

78. MRS. ELIZABETH McKEAN (BORIE) LEWIS.—Born in Philadelphia, March 4, 1844, and was married in Philadelphia, December 11, 1872, to John Thompson Lewis, Jr. Mr. Lewis is the son of Saunders Lewis, formerly a lawyer but afterwards a manufacturer, whose ancestors came to this country from Wales in 1686.<sup>1</sup>

He was born in Phila. May 12, 1846, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1865 ; and subsequently took the master's degree. For several years he had been in business in Philadelphia as a member of the firm of John T. Lewis & Bros., manufacturers, but in 1889 became associated with his brothers-in-law in the firm of C. & H. Borie, brokers. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis' issue, all born in Philadelphia :

- i. CHARLES BORIE,      b. Oct. 12, 1873.
- ii. PHOEBE MORRIS,    b. Aug. 25, 1879.
- iii. ELIZABETH BORIE, b. May 8, 1882.

79. BEAUVEAU BORIE.—Born in Philadelphia, May 9, 1846 ; graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1865, subsequently taking the master's degree ; and is in business in Philadelphia as one of the surviving partners of the firm of C. and H. Borie, brokers. He was married December 3, 1868, in Philadelphia, to Patty Duffield Neill, born August 5, 1846, daughter of James P. Wilson Neill and Alice Johnson Ren-

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<sup>1</sup>*Biog. Encycl. of Penn.*, 1874.

shaw, his wife, all of Philadelphia. For her pedigree reference may be had to *John Neill of Lewes Del., 1739, and his Descendants*, Phila., 1875. Issue of Mr. and Mrs. Borie, all born in Philadelphia :

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| i. CHARLES LOUIS,   | b. June 9, 1870.   |
| ii. EMILY EWING,    | b. May 9, 1872.    |
| iii. BEAUVEAU, JR., | b. Sept. 25, 1874. |
| iv. ADOLPHE EDWARD, | b. Jan. 5, 1877.   |
| v. RENSHAW,         | b. April 30, 1883. |

80. MRS. EMILY (BORIE) RHODES.—Born in Philadelphia, April 9, 1851, and married in Philadelphia, January 5, 1871, to James Mauran Rhodes, who was born in Providence, R. I., December 25, 1848, graduated at Brown University, R. I., in 1869, and subsequently took the decree of Ph. B. He is one of the surviving partners of the firm of C. & H. Borie, brokers, in Philadelphia. Their children :

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| i. CLEMENTINA BORIE,    | b. Phila., Dec. 10, 1871.               |
| ii. MARY ABORN,         | b. Paris, France, April 23, 1874.       |
| iii. JAMES MAURAN, JR., | b. Phila., July 31, 1876.               |
| iv. F. MAURAN,          | b. " Nov. 20, 1878.                     |
| v. ELIZABETH McKEAN,    | b. " Oct. 22, 1880.                     |
| vi. EMILY BORIE,        | b. " Oct. 22, 1880 ; d. March 22, 1881. |
| vii. EMILY BEAUVEAU,    | b. " Feb. 17, 1882.                     |
| viii. CHARLES BORIE,    | b. " April 7, 1883.                     |
| ix. SOPHIA BEAUVEAU,    | b. " July 7, 1885 ; d. Feb. 25, 1888.   |
| x. LAWRENCE MAURAN,     | b. " March 24, 1887.                    |

81. MRS. SARAH CLEMENTINA McKEAN (BORIE) MASON.—Born in Philadelphia February 2, 1853 ; and married October 12, 1886, at "The Dell," her father's residence, to George Champlin Mason, Jr., of Newport, R. I., son of the biographer of Gilbert Stuart. He was born in Newport, R. I., August 8, 1849, and resided in that place until January, 1888, when he removed to Philadelphia. He is an architect, and Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.



## FIFTH GENERATION.

**CHILDREN OF JOSEPH B. McKEAN. [34.]**

82. MRS. ANNA BAYARD (McKEAN) DEAN.—Born in Philadelphia, July 28, 1859; married at Deposit, New York, September 7, 1883, to Edward Gaylord Dean, a druggist, who was born November 23, 1853. They reside in Deposit, Broome Co., N. Y.

83. HENRY JARVIS McKEAN.—Born at Binghamton, Broome Co., N. Y., March 1, 1861. Educated at the Binghamton High School, and in 1883 was appointed a clerk in the Railway Mail Service. He was married in Binghamton, February 11, 1885, to Anna Mabel Livingston, daughter of James Robert Livingston and Esther Rogers of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who was born April 11, 1863. They reside in Binghamton. Their issue:

- i. WILLIAM WISTER, b. Jan. 20, 1885.
- ii. HENRY LIVINGSTON, b. Oct. 7, 1887.

**CHILD OF MRS. CAROLINE (McKEAN) WILSON. [36.]**

84. WILLIAM McKEAN WILSON.—Merchant in Scranton, Pennsylvania; married in July, 1885, to Harriet Kimball, who is from the West.

**CHILD OF MRS. ELIZABETH D. C. (McKEAN) ELY. [37.]**

85. WILLIAM MATHER ELY.—Born in Binghamton, N. Y., July 20, 1860, received an academic education, and is a merchant, residing in Binghamton. He was married in Binghamton September 5, 1883, to May La Monte, who was born in Adams, Massachusetts, May 6, 1861, the daughter of Abram H. and Helen Dean La Monte.

**CHILD OF CHARLES McKEAN BAYARD. [41.]**

86. JAMES WILSON BAYARD.—Born in Germantown, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1865; graduated from the College of New Jersey at Princeton in 1885. For three or four years he

has been a clerk in the Department of State in Washington ; and at the same time has been studying law under the supervision of the distinguished lawyer and legal writer, the Hon. Francis Wharton, Solicitor of the State Department. He also attended the law school of Columbian University, from which he graduated in June, 1889, and the previous month was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

### **CHILD OF DR. WILLIAM EDWARD COALE. [50.]**

87. **GEORGE OLIVER GEORGE COALE.**—Born in Boston, September 10, 1853, and named after the brother and uncle of his father, both of whom were named George. He graduated at Harvard University in 1874, and from the Dane Law School in 1876 ; was admitted to the bar in Boston, January 8, 1876, and is practicing his profession in Boston with marked success. He was married at St. Paul's Church, Brookline, Mass., December 9, 1882, to Elizabeth Atkinson ; who was born December 31, 1856, the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Staigg) Atkinson, of Brookline. Mr. and Mrs. Coale's issue :

- i. **MARIAN**,                      b. Oct. 30, 1883.
- ii. **WILLIAM EDWARD**, b. Jan. 4, 1887.

### **CHILDREN OF GEORGE BUCHANAN COALE. [52.]**

88. **PROFESSOR ROBERT DORSEY COALE.**—Born in Baltimore, September 13, 1857. He graduated at the Pennsylvania Military Academy as a Civil Engineer, in 1875 ; then became a special student in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, 1876–80, and Fellow in Chemistry 1880–81. After graduating, he was assistant in that branch, 1881–83 ; lecturer on chemistry in the University of Maryland, 1883–4 ; and in 1884 was appointed Professor of Chemistry and Toxicology in the University of Maryland. In 1881, he received the decree of Ph. D., from Johns Hopkins University ; his original scientific researches which gained his degree were published in the *American Chemical Journal*.<sup>1</sup>

89. **GEORGE WILLIAM COALE** —Born in Baltimore December 23, 1859. He entered into business with his

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<sup>1</sup> Johns Hopkins circulars, 1886 ; Appleton's *New Encycl. of Biog.*

father as insurance agent, subsequently becoming his partner. On the death of his father he became the surviving partner, carrying on the business. He resides in Baltimore.

90. MRS. MARY BUCHANAN (COALE) REDWOOD.—Born in Baltimore June 29, 1861; and was married in that city October 25, 1887, to Frank T. Redwood. Mr. Redwood was born in Baltimore December 20, 1856, graduated at the Baltimore City College and at Loyola College. He is the junior member of the firm of Brown and Lowndes, bankers and brokers, and is Secretary of the Merchants' Club. Their issue:

i. GEORGE BUCHANAN, b. Balt., Sept. 30, 1888.

**CHILD OF MRS. LÆTITIA McKEAN (BUCHANAN)  
FIFE. [58.]**

91. GEORGE BUCHANAN FIFE.<sup>1</sup>—Born in Charlestown, Mass., August 9, 1869. Removed to Washington, D. C., in 1872, with his grandmother, who has had the care of him since his mother's death. Studied at the preparatory school of Columbian University, Washington, but left there upon receiving an appointment as a Naval Cadet *at large*. He entered the Naval Academy at Annapolis, September 5, 1885; and resigned, January 23, 1886. Re-appointed *at large*, September 4, 1886; but left the Academy February 10, 1887, on account of hazing. He passed two years at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as a student in civil engineering.

**CHILD OF MRS. NANNIE (BUCHANAN)  
MEIERE. [60.]**

92. ERNEST MEIERE.—Born at Fair View, Talbot Co., Maryland, March 5, 1866. He is a merchant at Tunis Mills, Talbot Co.; his energy and integrity having made him a highly successful and reliable business man in that vicinity.

**CHILD OF MRS. ELIZABETH TAYLOE (BUCHANAN)  
SULLIVAN. [62.]**

93. FRANKLIN BUCHANAN SULLIVAN, U. S. N.—Born at *The Rest*, Talbot Co., Maryland, June 27, 1871.

<sup>1</sup> He has tacitly dropped the 2d and 4th Christian names under which he was baptized. See the *Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*.

He was appointed a naval cadet *at large* and entered the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, May 22, 1886, before he was fifteen years of age, being one of the youngest members of the class. He stands well in his class, and has won the esteem of his superior officers.

**CHILDREN OF MRS. SARAH E. M. (WADE)  
THOMAS. [69.]**

94. GEORGE CUMMINS THOMAS.—Graduated at the College of New Jersey at Princeton in 1879, and at the Law Department of Washington University, St. Louis, 1881. He resides in Elizabeth, N. J., practicing his profession in New York city; and was married at Erie, Pa., November 9, 1886, to Miriam Clark, daughter of Joseph David Clark, of Erie, Pa., formerly of Sheffield, Berkshire Co., Mass. Their issue:

- i. ELIZABETH MIRIAM, b. Sept. 11, 1887.

95. WILLIAM PROVOST THOMAS.—Resides in Elizabeth, N. J., and is in business with his father in New York city, as a custom-house broker. He was married in Washington, D. C., April 30, 1884, to Harriet Caldwell Lyon. Their issue:

- i. WILLIAM WILBERFORCE, b. Sept. 20, 1887.

**CHILD OF HIS EX. SR. DON CARLOS MANUEL MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y ALCAZAR, THIRD AND  
PRESENT MARQUIS DE CASA YRUJO  
Y DE LOS ARCOS. [72.]**

96. SR. DON CARLOS MARTINEZ DE YRUJO Y CARO.—Born in Madrid, Spain, July 24, 1877, is the heir to the Marquisate, and ultimately to the title of Duke de Sotomayor.

**CHILD OF THOMAS McKEAN. [76.]**

97. HENRY PRATT McKEAN.—Born in Philadelphia, January 12, 1866. He graduated at St. Paul's School, and subsequently became a special student at Harvard University, 1885-7, but did not remain there long enough to take a degree. He was married at Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, June

5, 1889, to Marian Shaw, daughter of Quincy Adams and Pauline (Agassiz) Shaw, who was born at Jamaica Plain February 21, 1866. They reside in Philadelphia.

**CHILD OF MRS. SARAH McKEAN (TROTT)  
HAZLEHURST. [77]**

98. Mrs. ELIZABETH BORIE (HAZLEHURST) LAMMOT.—Born in Philadelphia, June 1, 1861; and married in that city June 1, 1887, to Daniel Lammot, who was born in Wilmington, Del., April 10, 1856. He was educated by private tutors, removed in 1875 to Philadelphia, where he is in business as a miner and shipper of coal.



## APPENDIX I.

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### LIST OF BOOKS CONTAINING BIOGRAPHIES OF THOMAS MCKEAN, AND OTHER WORKS.

[WORKS CONTAINING MERE MENTION OF THOMAS MCKEAN, COMPRISING THE GREATER PART OF THOSE REFERRED TO IN THE FOOT NOTES, AND NUMBERING ABOUT 200, ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS LIST.]

#### *Sanderson's Biographies of the Signers.*

Biography of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, John Sanderson, 9 vols. Phila. R. W. Pomeroy, 1820-7. Engraving by J. B. Longacre. Robert Waln is the biographer of Thomas McKean and of many other of the signers. This is the earliest work and the original of all the subsequent Lives of the Signers; and is still the standard work of its kind. Being published at first anonymously, it has been sometimes called "*Pomeroy's Lives.*"

(Rather singularly I have found a great variety in the title pages. One set dated 1820-7; a second 1823-7; a third 1823-4; Sanderson's name is given in some volumes, and not in others of the same set. On an engraved title page some volumes have a coiled serpent, others a female figure.)

The same, 2d Edition, 5 vols. Philadelphia. Pub. by W. Brown and C. Peters, 1828. Engraving by J. B. Longacre. (A few minor changes made in this edition).

The same. 5 vols. Published by Bennet and Walton, 1831. (Word for word the same as the 2nd edition.) [Not illustrated.]

The same. Revised by Robert T. Conrad. 1 vol. Imp. 8°. Thomas Cowperthwait & Co. Phila. 1846. Engraving by S. C. Atkinson.

The same as the last named. With 60 engravings, collected and prepared by William Brotherhead, 1865. 1 vol. 4°. 160 copies. \$20.00. [Illustrated with a picture of Duché's house, but no engraving of Thomas McKean.]

Edition of Sanderson by Fowle, 1864. 607 pp., rough edges, \$81. [Mentioned by Allibone.]

*Lives of the Signers, By other authors.*

C. A. Goodrich, *Lives of the Signers*. New York, 1829. 1 vol., 12°. [Partly illustrated, no engravings of Thomas McKean.]

N. Dwight, *Sketches of the Lives of the Signers*, New York, 1830; 1 vol., 12°. [Not illustrated,]

L. Carroll Judson, *Biographies of the Signers* (Author a member of the Philadelphia bar). Phila., 1839. 1 vol., 8°. [Not illustrated. A beautifully written biography.]

B. J. Lossing, *Lives of the Signers*, 1848 and Phila., 1870, 1 vol. [Poor woodcut likeness.]

E. Benner, *Lebensbeschreibungen sämtlicher unterzeichner der unabhängigkeitz-Erklärung*. (In Dutch, chiefly from Goodrich's *Lives*. Engraving by S. C. Atkinson from Stuart. 12°. Sumneytown, Penn. 1842 and 1858.

*Book of the Signers*. William Brotherhead, large folio, Phila., 1861, containing facsimiles of letters, etc. Duché's house is shown.

*Centennial Book of the Signers*. William Brotherhead, Phila., copyright 1872, folio. A similar work to the previous. A poor woodcut after Tiebout.

*Biography of the Signers*, 3 vols., large 4°, in the library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, for which the Society paid \$2000. This work is a compilation. Each leaf from Sanderson's *Lives* is set in a border of stout paper, and the work illustrated with engravings, views, autograph letters, etc., from various sources. Engraving, large size by David Edwin.

*Lives of the Pres. U. S. with biog. notices of Signers of the Dec. of Ind.*; Robert W. Lincoln, Brattleborough, Vt., 1839.

*Other Biographies of Thomas McKean.*

*National Portraits*, J. B. Longacre and James Herring, 4 vols., 4° (vol. iv., for 1839). Engraving by T. B. Welch. A good biography.

The same. D. Rice and A. N. Hart. 4 vols., 1854; (vol. iv.) Engraving by T. B. Welch.

*Hazard's Register of Pennsylvania*, vol. vi. (for 1830), 161, 177, 191, Sanderson's biography in full; also vol. iii. (1829), 241; the Supreme Court Bench of Pennsylvania.

*Lives of the Governors of Pennsylvania*, William C. Armor. Phila., 1872. Wood cut and autograph.

Scharf and Westcott, *History of Philadelphia*. 3 vols., 4°. Phila., 1884. Biography ii., 1515, *et seq.*, and very numerous references throughout the whole work. Wood cut, good likeness.

*History of Chester county, Penn.*, Judge John Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope. 4°. Phila., 1881. Biography and wood cut, 644 *et seq.*



Illust. History of Penn., William H. Egle, 1870. Short sketch and likeness.

Pennsylvania and the Federal Constitution, John Bach McMaster and Frederick D. Stone. Phila., 1888. 8°. Short sketch and etching from an old print by Tiebout.

Scharf's History of Delaware, 2 vols. Phila., 1888, i. 567.

Sages and Heroes of the American Revolution, L. Carroll Judson, 2 vols., 1851.

Harper's Magazine, iii. 145, vii., 429, *et seq.*, a short sketch and likeness; xlvii., 429 *et seq.*, fac-simile of handwriting of various signers; lii. 871, anecdotes and a good wood-cut likeness.

Historical Mag. of Notes and Q. iv., 2d Ser., Nov. 1868, p. 209. short sketches of the signers and others, with copies of letters from an autograph collection.

History of Independence Hall, D. W. Belisle, Phila., 1859. short sketch.

Continental Sketches of Distinguished Pennsylvanians, David R. B. Nevin. Phila., 1875. 8°. A good biography.

Lives of Eminent Philadelphians, Henry Simpson, Phila., 1859.

Field Book of the Revolution, Benson J. Lossing, New York, 1852 (and various editions). 2 vols. Various references and short biography, ii., 871; likenesses of the signers, etc.

Pennsylvania Magazine, xi., 249, *et seq.* "The Federal Constitution," by William H. Egle. Sketches of members of the Convention. A good biography.

Life and Corresp. of George Read. William T. Read, Phila., 1870. A full biography of Thomas McKean, p. 332, *et seq.*

Notæ Cestrienses. From the *Village Record*, West Chester, Pa., 1860. No. 12 of a series of historical articles. A short biography.

Bordentown and its Environs. In the *Bordentown Register*, 1876. Historical articles by E. M. Woodward, chap. xii. The Borden Family, and a sketch of Thomas McKean.

Catalogue of Independence Hall, 1878. (For the use of visitors.) List of portraits and brief sketches of the Signers.

Baltimore American and Commercial Advertiser, date unknown, probably quoted from Sanderson, about 1827.

### *Biographical Dictionaries, etc.*

Appleton's New Cyclopædia of Biography, 6 vols., 1887, a good sketch and likeness.

Biographical Encyclopædia of Pennsylvania, 1874.

New American Cyclopædia, 16 vols. New York, 1875.

Allibone's Dictionary of Authors. 3 vols. A brief sketch.

Dictionary of Congress, Charles Lanman. (Published by Congress.) 5th Ed., 1868.

Biographical Annals of the U. S. Government, Charles Lanman, 2d Ed., 1887.

Drake's Dictionary of American Biography, Boston, 1872.

Allen's American Biographical Dictionary.

Political Register and Congressional Directory, B. P. Poore, Boston, 1878.

Appleton's Cyclop. of Biog., 1 vol., 1868, p. 558, brief sketch, improperly indexed.

Harper's Popular Cyclop. of U. S. History, N. Y., 1881, 2 vols.

Johnson's New Illust. Cyclop., N. Y., 1878, 4 vols. 4°.

### *Official Publications.*

Journals of Congress, 13 vols. Pub. by authority, Phila., 1777, and subsequent ed.

Secret Journals of Congress, 4 vols. Pub. by Congress, 1821.

Debates on the Federal Constitution, Jonathan Elliot, 4 vols., published with the sanction of Congress, Washington, 1854.

Reports of Cases in Pennsylvania, A. J. Dallas, 4 vols., 1790-1807. Dedicated to Chief Justice McKean.

Pennsylvania Colonial Records, 16 vols. Pub. by the State, 1852-3.

Pennsylvania Archives, 12 vols., Hazard, 1853.

### *Works by Governor McKean.*

Laws of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware, 1753-62, By authority of the General Assembly, by Thomas McKean and Cæsar Rodney. And laws down to 1777. Wilmington, 1763-77. Catalogued at the library of the Supreme Court of the United States, with a note, "believed to be the first book printed in Delaware." See page 14 *ante*.

Acts of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, etc., by Thomas McKean, 1782, known briefly as *McKean's Laws*. See page 73 *ante*.

Charge of Thomas McKean, Chief Justice, to Grand Jury at Court of Oyer and Terminer, and General Gaol Delivery, held at York in 1788. (Hildeburn's Issues Phil. Press 1886, No. 3738.) See page 61 *ante*.

Commentary on the Constitution of the United States by Thomas McKean and James Wilson, London, 1792. See page 81 *ante*.

Speech [to the Legislature, Dec. 8, 1808], no title page, 8°. (Boston Ath. Cat.)

## APPENDIX II.

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### MISTAKES AND DISCREPANCIES IN CHURCH REGISTERS, BIBLE RECORDS, TOMBSTONES, CEMETERY RECORDS, IN OTHER PUBLIC ARCHIVES, AND IN PRINTED BOOKS.

#### IN THE INTRODUCTION.

P. 9. William McKean, discrepancy in date of birth.

P. 10. *Pa. Mag.* vii, 466. For *Lætitia* McKean, sister of Governor McKean, read *Dorothea*.

#### IN THE BIOGRAPHY OF GOVERNOR THOMAS MCKEAN.

*Sanderson's Lives.* Adm. bar Chester co., 1755, not 1756; and Sup. Ct., 1758, not 1757.—Meeting at Carpenter's Hall in 1776, Franklin was not on the committee with Mr. McKean.—Vote on Res. of Independence taken July 2d, not 1st.—Mr. McKean signed Dec. Ind. in Jan. 1779, or later, not Oct. 1776.—Mr. McKean was not president of Delaware when appointed Ch. Justice, the office devolved upon him afterwards.—Const. of Delaware written at *Newcastle*, not *Dover*.—Mr. McKean moved to ratify Const. of U. S. on 24th, not 26th (See *Elliot's Debates*).—Mr. McKean m. 1st, July 21, 1763, not July, 1762.—wife died March 12, 1773, not Feb. 1773.—He m. 2d, Sept. 3, 1774, which was *Saturday*, not *Thursday*.—Age at death, 83 y., 2 m., 25 days, not 16 days.

*Goodrich's Lives.* Continental Cong. met Sept. 5th, not 3rd, 1775.

*Journals of Congress and Articles of Confederation*, discrepancy in date of ratification mentioned in the text (p. 65).

*Declaration of Independence.* Arguments to show that John Hancock and Charles Thomson did not sign it on July 4th, 1776, as generally stated by historians (p. 31, *et seq.*)

*National Portraits*, 1839. Mr. McKean served in Del. Assembly till 1779, not 1777.—Stamp Act Cong. met 1765, not 1768.—Com. to prepare Art. Confed., 1776, not 1775.—Loan Comms. till 1776, not 1772.—Justice of Peace, 1765, not 1768.—Art. Confed.

agreed to 1777, not 1776.—Also Sanderson's mistakes in dates of m., d. and age are here copied.

Etting's *Old State House*, Lossing's *Field Book of Rev.*, Scharf and Westcott's *Hist. Phila.*, and Scharf's *Hist. Md.*, give but *twelve* names on committee to prepare Art. Confed.; there were *thirteen*, one from each State (see text, p. 65).

Armor's *Lives of Govs. of Pa.*, and Scharf and Westcott's *Phila.* Mr. McKean b. *New London*, not *Londonderry*.

Scharf and Westcott's *Phila.*, p. 446. Conv. to ratify Const. of U. S. met Nov. 20th, not 21st.

Elliot's *Debates on Fed. Const.*, ii, 417. Mr. McKean moved to ratify Const. U. S. on Saturday, 24th, not 26th; Bancroft points out this mistake.

Appleton's *Cycl. of Biog.* McKean and Wilson's Commentary on Const. U. S., published 1792, not 1790.

Bancroft's *Hist. U. S.*, 1876, v. 355, and 1885, v. 16, states that Mr. McKean signed the Declaration in 1781. I think it undoubtedly a mistake, although Mr. Bancroft in reply to my inquiries kindly informs me that he believes it to be correct—that it is not a misprint. This date is copied in Winsor's *History* and in Judge Chamberlain's *Authentication*.

*Life of George Read.* William T. Read, 1870, several mistakes in dates, etc. (p. 53 note.)—Claim that George Read wrote Const. of Del. not substantiated (p. 52-4).

*Watson's Annals* (Hazard's Ed.), and Potter's *Am. Monthly*, mistakes as to Dec. Ind. corrected (p. 33, note).

*Poetical Addresses.* G. A. Townsend, Cæsar Rodney's 4th of July. For John McKean read Thomas McKean; the latter name, it will be noticed, does not suit the metre of the poem. The author kindly informs me that the character Sarah Rowland in the poem is a fiction—an invention for detaining Mr. Rodney.

*Histor. Mag.* iv, 2d Ser., 209, *et seq.* A sketch of Mr. McKean contains several inaccuracies.

Lincoln's *Lives Pres. U. S. and Signers*, states wrongly that Mr. McKean was present in Congress, Aug. 2d, and signed Dec. Ind. on that day.

Hildrith's *Hist. U. S.*, v. 328, vote for governor in 1799, the votes for McKean and for Ross are each 10,000 too small.

The vote for governor at McKean's first election is thus stated by Mr. Herman P. Miller, in the office of the Pa. Senate, in a letter of Dec. 4, 1889. A mistake of 792 in the return of Chester co. made McKean's vote 37,244; corrected the next day in the Senate to be 38,036. Ross's vote was 32,643, not 32,641, as in Cochran's *Handbook*.

Cochran's *Handbook of Pa.*, 1889, gives the three votes thus:—

1799.		1802.	
Thomas McKean, Dem.,	38,036	Thomas McKean, Dem.,	47,879
James Ross, Federal,	32,643	James Ross of Pittsburgh, Fed.,	9,499
[The mistake in Ross's vote is here corrected.]		James Ross, Federal,	7,538
		Scattering,	94
1805.			
Thomas McKean, Independent Democrat,	43,644		
Simon Snyder, Democrat,	38,483		
Simon Snyder,	395		

*Burlington and Mercer Co.*, and in *Bordentown Register*, 1876, E. M. Woodward. The progenitor of Borden family is *Richard*, not *Benjamin*.—Joseph Borden m. Elizabeth Rogers, not a dau. of Marmaduke Watson.—Mr. McKean d. June 24th, not 4th.

*Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family*, p. 137. Borden pedigree, the date of 1763–5 belongs to the previous generation.—Mary Borden m. 1763, not 1762. Lætitia McKean b. 1769, not 1770; m. June 11th, not 10th.—Gen. A. Buchanan b. 1734, not 1732, and d. 1786, not 1785.

#### IN THE SECOND AND SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS.

2. Joseph B. McKean, mistakes in dates in Brown's *Forum* are noted p. 126; the correct dates are given in the text.

3. Robert McKean, W. H. Egle, in *Pa. Mag.*, iii, 235, date of death given wrongly.

4. Mrs. Elizabeth Pettit, age on tombstone 42 for 44 years.—Andrew Pettit d. March 6, 1837, not March 5, as in *Amer. Alm.*, 1838.

5. Mrs. Lætitia Buchanan. Date of m., records of 1st Presb. Ch., Phila., June 10th, should be Thursday, June 11.—Tombstone, Woodlands Cem., gives date of d. 1846; should be 1845.

Discrepancies in dates of birth of her children, viz.:—

i. Susanna,	b. Apr. 9, 1790,	"old list,"	Apr. 10, St. P. Ch.	
iii. Mary Ann,	b. Oct. 15, 1792,	"	Oct. 14,	" { They believed
iv. Rebecca S.,	b. Oct. 15, 1793,	"	Nov. 17,	" { Oct. 15 to be
				" { their birth-
viii. Franklin,	b. Sept. 17, 1799,	"	Sept. 17, 1800,	St. P. Ch. 1800
				is correct.
ix. Elizabeth,	b. Jan. 25, 1801,	"	Jan. 27, 1802,	"
iv. St. Paul's Church	has the name wrongly Rebecca Lætitia.			

6. Mrs. Anne Buchanan d. May 26, 1804, and not June 3, as given in *Pa. Mag.*, iii, 235.

7. Marchioness de Casa Yrujo. "Baptized by Rev'd Joseph Montgomery" and name given simply *Sarah* in Gov. McKean's Bible Record; and "Baptized according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church on the 8th of April, 1780," in the Marquis'

M. S.—Marquis de Casa Yrujo, most biographical dictionaries and histories have confused his *title* with his *surname*, which is Martinez de Yrujo; giving the title wrongly, *Marquis de Yrujo*.

9. S. M. McKean. His age given wrongly, 78 y., 3 m., 14 d., on the record books of Oak Hill Cem. There is also a discrepancy as to the location of the graves.

11. Com. W. W. McKean. Date b. wrongly given on Navy Dept. Records, Nov. 17, 1800. Drake, Appleton's *An. Cycl.*, 1865, and others give wrongly b. 1801; and call him a *nephew* of Gov. McKean. The dates of his children, furnished by themselves, are rather meagre, and there exists a great discrepancy between these and the records of the 1st Presb. Ch., Phila., as follows:—

iii. Elizabeth. In 1st Presb. Ch., *Catharine Page* was bapt. Dec. 18, 1835, which must be this child with a discrepancy of names; or else another child not mentioned in the family records.

iv. His name given wrongly Francis Buchanan in 1st Pr. Ch. records.

vi. Elizabeth Davis Clark. 1st Pr. Ch. omits *Clark*, and gives b. 23 June, 1836.

viii. William B. Family records give b. Nov. 10, 1841, which cannot be, as he was bapt. Aug. 29, 1841, according to the 1st Presb. Ch. register, in which the entries are given chronologically; and the date following is Sept. 16.

x. Name given Rosa *Davis* on 1st. Presb. Ch. records.

13. David Hoffman, b. Dec. 24, 1784, not 25th, as in various biographies.—Mrs. Hoffman, Second Presb. Ch. records, give bapt. Dec. 19, 1803, and date b. wrongly July 8, 1796.

14. Charles Pettit, 1st Presb. Ch. records give wrongly b. March 30.

15. Judge Pettit, *Numismatics Manual*, and *Amer. Abn.*, 1853, give date d. wrongly May 31.—The graveyard mentioned is owned jointly by Christ Church and St. James; and in *Records of Inscriptions, Christ Ch.*, Clark, 1864, the Pettit vault is mentioned, and Mrs. Pettit's d. given wrongly by several years.—Date of Philomathian address, Drake gives 1836.

16. Robert Pettit acknowledges Feb. 19, 1804, as his birthday. The 1st Presb. Ch. register gives Jan. 10, 1804, in two books.—*Navy Register*, July, 1877, gives retired Nov. 15, 1862: and *Hammersly's Record*, 1870, gives the year 1861, both of which are wrong by several years.

19. E. J. Coale. A discrepancy in date of m. of S. S. Coale is noticed. The Coale family records give April 19, 1775; Keith, quoting Christ Ch. register, gives April 26. This register, published in *Pa. Archives*, 2d Ser., 1876, viii, gives April 20; the reader may take his choice of these!

21. Mrs. Sarah G. Buchanan. Discrepancy in date of d. (p. 153, note).

22. Pay-Director McKean Buchanan. A few dates are wrong in Hammersly's *Records*, revised ed., Aug. 1870, and in *Annual Cyclopædia*, 1871.

23. Admiral Franklin Buchanan. *N. E. Hist. and Gen. Reg.*, July, 1874, xviii, 364, *et seq.*, entered navy *January*, not *June*, 1815.—Date res. from navy given wrongly in Drake's *Dict. Am. Biog.*, Ap. 19; and by Hammersly's *Navy Reg. for 100 years*, May 22.—Appleton's *Cyclop. of Am. Biog.*, 1887, and *Cyclop. of Biog.*, 6 vols., 1888, state wrongly that Adm. Buchanan commanded the Virginia when she was destroyed.—He did not lose a leg at either Hampton Roads or Mobile, as Lossing and others would have us believe.—Confed. *Navy Register*, Jan. 1, 1863, gives date of appt. as Admiral, Aug. 26, '62. This *Reg.* is published in full in *N. Y. Herald*, March 28, 1863. *Navy Reg.*, Jan. 1, 1864, gives the date of appt. Aug. 21, '62, to take rank from that day. *Navy Reg.*, June 1, '64, gives the date June 2, '64, to take rank from that day. [The latter date may have been under some reorganization of the navy.]—*Old Kent*, several dates regarding Buchanan family given wrongly.—Adm. Buchanan d. May 11, 1874, not 12th, as given in *Annual Cycl.*, 1874, and other works.—See above No. 5 for discrepancy in date of b.

24. Discrepancies in dates of Newman family Bible are mentioned in a note. This record is one of the greatest curiosities the author has had the pleasure of examining during the whole of his inquiries in behalf of this genealogy.

25. Senator Sanford b. 1777, not 1779, as given by Drake, Lanman, B. P. Poore, and others.

27. It is strange that none of the family can give the date of Mrs. Wade's birth. The date is not in St. Paul's baptismal record with those of the other children.

28. Doña Narcisa M. L. Martinez de Yrujo. The date of *baptism*, as given in the text by the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, is given as date of *birth* by Chapman Biddle, Esq., of Phila., attorney in the suit mentioned in the text.

32. Hon. A. E. Borie's term of office as Secretary of the Navy is stated variously by Appleton, Phila. *Times*, and other biographers, but without much or any real disagreement; on account of the apparent discrepancy the several dates are given in the text pages 192–3. The date of Mrs. Borie's birth was at first given by the family March 3, as on page 139. After this had been printed, it was changed in the MS. of page 192 to read March 2; which is probably correct.

33. Charles L. Borie, date b. given Jan. 6 in *Sunday Republican*, Jan. 15, 1888.

50. Dr. Coale, Quinan's *Med. Annals*, Balt., 1884, p. 83, L. M., 1828, should be 1838. See ante p. 203, note.

54. Capt. Buchanan. Date of death uncertain, as noted in text, p. 208.

55. Mrs. Everett. Singular mistakes as to date of marriage that would mislead any one who trusted to the records.

56. Lt. Com. Buchanan. All the biographers have variously misstated his relationship to Admiral Buchanan and to Paymaster Buchanan. He was the nephew of each. Lossing's *Civil War*, Appleton's *Biog. Dict.*, may be named. Even Admiral Farragut, who knew intimately the older members of the family, but perhaps not the younger branches, has misstated his relationship. The date of the letter of Admiral Farragut last quoted, p. 211, is given Jan. 13 in his *Life*—undoubtedly a mistake for 15th.



## APPENDIX III.

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### POSITIONS OF HONOR AND TRUST HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE MCKEAN FAMILY.

#### GENERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS—UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

- Continental Congress*, PRESIDENT—Thomas McKean, 1781.  
Member from Delaware—Thomas McKean,  
1774–83.
- Stamp Act Congress*, Member from Delaware—Thomas McKean,  
1765.
- President of the Council of Ministers*, Spain—The Duke de Sotomayor, 1847–8.
- President of the State of Delaware*—Thomas McKean, 1777.
- Minister of State*, 1st Secretary (Foreign Office)—1st Marquis de Casa Yrujo. The Duke de Sotomayor, 1847–8.
- Secretary of the Navy*, United States—Adolphe E. Borie, 1869.
- Honorary Councillor of State*—The 1st Marquis de Casa Yrujo.
- Governor of Pennsylvania*—Thomas McKean, 1799.
- Military Governor of Philippine Islands*—Sr. Don Blas Pierrard.
- Secretary to the Council of Ministers*—The Duke de Sotomayor.
- Senator*, Life Senator of Spain—The Duke de Sotomayor, 1846.  
of the United States—Nathan Sanford, 1816–31.  
of Spain—The 3d Marquis de Casa Yrujo, 1884.
- Chief Justice of Pennsylvania*—Thomas McKean, 1777.
- Chancellor of New York*—Nathan Sanford, 1823.
- The Cortez*, Spain, Member—The Duke de Sotomayor, 1838.  
The 3d Marquis de Casa Yrujo,  
1878–84.  
Senor Don Blas Pierrard.
- Ambassador*, Spain to France—The Duke de Sotomayor, 1841–51.
- Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary*—  
Spain to the United States—The 1st Marquis de Casa Yrujo,  
1796–1806.  
Spain to Rio de Janeiro—The 1st Marquis de Casa Yrujo  
till 1813.  
Spain to Paris—The 1st Marquis de Casa Yrujo, 1821.  
Spain to England—The Duke de Sotomayor, 1844–6.

*Secretary of Embassy*, at Paris—The Duke de Sotomayor.  
*Attache*, 3d Secretary, at London—The Third Marquis de Casa Yrujo.

*High Court of Errors and Appeals*—Thomas McKean, Judge, 1780.

*Director of the Mint*, United States—Thomas McKean Pettit.

*Major-domo of the Royal Palace*, Madrid—The Duke de Sotomayor, 1854.

*Gentile-Hombre de Camara*—The 1st Marquis de Casa Yrujo.

The Duke de Sotomayor.

The 3d Marquis de Casa Yrujo.

*Lady in Waiting*—Doña Narcisa M. L. M. de Yrujo y McKean.

*Attorney General of Pennsylvania*—Joseph B. McKean, 1800.

Deputy, Thomas McKean, 1756.

*District Court of the Pa.*, Presiding Judge—Joseph B. McKean, 1818.

Thomas McKean

Pettit, 1833.

*Court of Common Pleas and Probate Court*—Thomas McKean, 1765.

*State Legislatures.* Delaware, House—Thomas McKean, 1762 ;  
 Speaker, 1772.

New York, Senate, House, and Speaker  
 Nathan Sanford, 1811–15.

New York, House—Joseph E. Ely, 1853.

Pennsylvania, House—Thomas McKean Pettit, 1830.

Maryland, House—John C. Brune, 1861.

*District Attorney* of the U. S. (New York)—Nathan Sanford, 1803.

(Pennsylvania)—Thomas McKean  
 Pettit.

*Consuls in the U. S.*, of Belgium—A. E. Borie, 1843.

of Brazil—Vice Consul, E. J. Coale, 1824.

George H. Newman,  
 1831.

of Russia—Consular Agent, E. J. Coale, 1815.

of Sicily—Acting Consul, A. E. Borie.

*Presidential Electors*—Thomas McKean, 1792, 1796.

David Hoffman, 1836, 1840.

A. E. Borie, 1872.

*Centennial Commission*, of U. S.—Chief of Bureau, Henry Pettit,  
 1876.

*Prothonotary* of Pennsylvania, Centre Co.—George Buchanan,  
 1836.

*Lazaretto Physician*, Philadelphia—Dr. George Buchanan, 1806.

*Justice of the Peace*—Thomas McKean, Del., 1765 ; Pa. 1769.  
 George Buchanan.

*U. S. Civil Service*—Treasury, Samuel M. McKean, 1817.

Navy Department, Nautical Almanac Office,  
 Roberdeau Buchanan, 1878.

*U. S. Civil Service.*—State Department, James W. Bayard.  
 Post Office Department, Henry J. McKean.  
*Private Secretary* to Governor, Pennsylvania—Thomas McKean,  
 Jr.  
*City Council*, Baltimore, 1st Branch—Dr. George Buchanan.

## MILITARY APPOINTMENTS—UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

*Admiral*, Confederate States Navy—Franklin Buchanan.  
*Lieutenant General* of Spain—Sr. Don Blas Pierrard.  
*Flag Officer*, U. S. Navy—Captain W. W. McKean.  
 Confederate Navy—Captain Franklin Buchanan.  
*Military Governor of Philippine Islands*—Sr. Don Blas Pierrard.  
*Superintendent of Naval Academy*—Com'r Franklin Buchanan,  
 1845.  
*Governor of the Naval Asylum*—Com'r William W. McKean.  
*Adjutant General*, Pennsylvania—Thomas McKean, Jr., 1808.  
*Commodore* U. S. Navy—William W. McKean.  
 William Ronckendorf.  
*Pay Directors* (rank of Commodore)—McKean Buchanan.  
 Robert Pettit.  
*Field Marshal* of Spain—Sr. Don Blas Pierrard.  
*Captain* U. S. Navy (then the highest grade)—Franklin Buchanan.  
*Brigadier General*, Pennsylvania troops—George Buchanan, 1852.  
*Lt. Colonel* U. S. A. by brevet—Richard D. A. Wade.  
*Colonel*, Pennsylvania Associators—Thomas McKean, 1776.  
*Lieutenant Commander* U. S. N.—Thomas McKean Buchanan.  
*Captain* U. S. A., Commis. Subsistence—Evan M. Buchanan, 1862.  
 U. S. A. Infantry—Robert Buchanan Wade.  
 U. S. Marine Corps—J. E. Meiere.  
 William B. McKean, 1861.  
*Lieutenant* U. S. N.—Thomas McKean Buchanan, 1818.  
 Franklin Buchanan McKean, 1845.  
*Assistant Surgeon* U. S. N.—William Edward Coale.  
 George S. Fife.  
*Military Secretary* to Gen. Comg. U. S. A.—Evan M. Buchanan,  
 1861.  
*2d Lieutenant* Mass. Heavy Artillery—Edward F. Everett.  
*Naval Cadet*—George Buchanan Fife, 1885.  
 Franklin Buchanan Sullivan, 1886.  
*Philadelphia City Troop*—Joseph B. McKean, 1786.  
 Robert McKean, 1794.  
 Andrew Pettit, 1787.  
*State Fencibles*—Joseph B. McKean, 1813.  
*Gray Reserves*—Dr. Beaton Smith.  
*Penn's Valley Troop*—George Buchanan, 1841.

*New Castle County Company*—Thomas McKean, 1757.

*Private*—Thomas McKean, 1775, while a member of Congress and Speaker of the Assembly of Delaware.

#### LEARNED SOCIETIES, ETC.

*American Philosophical Society*—Thomas McKean (Counsellor and Patron), The 1st Marquis de Casa Yrujo, Joseph B. McKean, Dr. George Buchanan, Hon. A. E. Borie, Joseph M. Wilson.

*Pennsylvania Historical Society*, Vice-President—Thomas M. Pettit.

*Maestranza de Ronda y de Seville*—The Duke de Sotomayor, de Zaragoza—The Third Marquis de Casa Yrujo.

*University of Pennsylvania*, Trustees—Thomas McKean, A. E. Borie, 1858.

*Maryland University*—Professor of Law—David Hoffman, 1817.  
Professor of Chem. and Tox.—Robert D. Coale.

*Maryland Agricultural College*, President—Admiral Franklin Buchanan.

*Missouri State College*—Prof. military science, Capt. R. B. Wade.

*Hibernian Society*, Phila., President—Thomas McKean, 1790.

*Scott's Charitable Society*, Boston, President—Dr. W. E. Coale.

*Royal Physical Society* of Edinburgh, President—Dr. George Buchanan, 1786.

*Medical Society of Baltimore*—Dr. George Buchanan, 1789.

*Medical and Chirurgical Faculty* of Md.—Dr. George Buchanan.

*Institute of Civil Engineers*, London, Eng.—Joseph M. Wilson.

*American Inst. of Architects*—Joseph M. Wilson, George C. Mason.

*Amer. Soc. of Civil Engineers*—Henry Pettit.

*Amer. Inst. of Mining Engineers*—Henry Pettit.

*Union League*, Philadelphia, V. President—A. E. Borie.

Members—Charles L. Borie, Henry Pettit.

*Maryland Club*—George B. Coale, Frank T. Redwood, Sec.

*Wednesday Club*, *Athenæum Club*—George B. Coale.

## APPENDIX IV.

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### A REMARKABLE REMINISCENCE—HOW A DESIRE FOR REVENGE WAS CONQUERED.

DRAMATIC INCIDENT IN THE EARLY LIFE OF ADMIRAL FRANK-  
LIN BUCHANAN—HIS COOLNESS, COURAGE  
AND COMMAND OF MEN.

*From the Richmond Dispatch, May 13, 1883.*

[Author unknown.]

It was some time in the winter of 1831 or 1832 that I happened to be in Richmond, and on returning to New York, where at that time I was a resident, that rather than encounter the fatigue of the overland route by way of Fredericksburg—for in those days there were no railroads, or were otherwise in their incipency—I adopted the river-line, which is to say, by steamer to Norfolk, and from thence by the Chesapeake Bay-Line of steamers to Baltimore. On reaching Norfolk, having some acquaintances there, I determined to tarry a day or two, and on the morning after my arrival was very politely invited by a friend to take dinner with him on that day, he remarking at the same time that I would meet with some acquaintances and a naval officer or two, who, with the crew, had just been discharged from the frigate *Constellation* after a three-years' cruise in the Mediterranean. I very gladly accepted the invitation, and met at the appointed hour a very pleasant, genial party of ten or a dozen gentlemen.

After the cloth was removed, and the conversation took a general turn, allusion was made by some one present to the hostility that seemed to pervade the *Constellation's* crew towards Mr. Franklin Buchanan, the first lieutenant of the ship. That, as they rambled about the streets and shops, nearly all of them, as it seemed, more or less under the influence of liquor, the whole burden of their song seemed to be denunciatory of Lieutenant Franklin Buchanan, accompanied by threats loud and deep. One of the officers present, who had been on the cruise, remarked that Buchanan was a rigid disciplinarian, but he was not prepared to say he had ever exceeded his authority or the rules, and that enforced obedience

was absolutely necessary to the preservation of order and the working of the ship. He went on furthermore to say that he had heard of threats, and if Buchanan was not murdered on the streets he might be the next afternoon, as he was going up to Baltimore, and possibly a hundred or a hundred and fifty of the ship's crew along with him; and that having been informed, he had also been applied to by some of his friends to delay his departure a few days longer in Norfolk. But he replied that he had written to his mother and sisters he expected to meet them on a certain day in Philadelphia, and he was not to be deterred from his purpose by the threat of any man or any number of men.

On the next afternoon I went myself on board the steamer, which had been advertised to leave at 4 o'clock. I observed a number of seamen on the forward deck, but there was no one present with whom I was acquainted who could point out to me Lieutenant Franklin Buchanan. We got under way at the appointed hour, and as it was chilly on deck I went below into the after-cabin, where I observed ten or a dozen gentlemen seated around the stove, which seemed to me about constituted the number of what is called cabin passengers. The conversation was quiet, yet it was quite evident from the subjects spoken of that several of the gentlemen present were naval officers. But there were no uniforms worn, no name called, and nothing to indicate which was Lieutenant Buchanan. We had proceeded about two hours on our way when I observed three or four seamen coming down the stairway, and on reaching the foot stood still and directed their eyes to where we were sitting. Immediately one of the gentlemen near me got up, and carrying in his hand what I supposed to be a sword-cane, marched three or four times up and down the whole length of the cabin, and at times almost touching the seamen. While this was going on, and not a word said that we could hear, the captain of the steamer came below, and in the most decided manner ordered the seamen out, reminding them at the same time that the conditions of their being taken on board were that they were not to come abaft the wheel-house. With a scowling expression on their countenances they turned about and went out. The gentleman with the cane quietly returned to his seat. There was now no difficulty in recognizing him as Lieutenant Franklin Buchanan.

We had our suppers at the usual hour, everything had been cleared away, and our seats resumed around the stove, when a body of seven or eight seamen came below. The lieutenant immediately rose to his feet, and with cane in hand began his march. He had passed them but once or twice when the captain, in some manner apprised, came below a second time, and in the most violent language ordered them out, saying at the same time he would run the boat ashore and land every one of them unless his orders

were obeyed. To my great astonishment—drilled to obedience, I suppose—every man of them turned about and went out. At this moment, Colonel Robert T. Hayne, of South Carolina, whom I had never seen before or since, came forward and expressed the hope that as he and his family were on board there would be no bloodshed, and desired the captain to exercise the most determined authority for the maintenance of order. While this was going on there was a little by-play around the stove. A passenger whom I had not before observed ventured the remark that he had never been in the company of naval officers that there was not some disturbance. Instantly a young gentleman sprung to his feet, and told him if he dared to say a word against the navy he would tear every limb from his body. The passenger seemed to think he would do it, too, for I never saw him afterwards. This young gentleman, I was afterwards informed, was midshipman—now Admiral David Porter.

Ten o'clock came—about the hour for retiring—when it occurred to me before doing so, I would step out on deck and see “what of the night.” There was a passageway under deck that led from the rear to the forward cabin. This I took, and reaching there, by the light of a great globe-lamp that hung at the top of the stairway, I ascended to the deck. I found there any number of seamen, who spoke in tones somewhat subdued; but the decree had gone forth, and was yet adhered to, that Lieutenant Franklin Buchanan must die.

I looked out upon the wide waters, agitated by a strong north-west wind, and every wave that broke upon the bows seemed to send a thrill through the boat from stem to stern. The night was magnificent. The air was cool, crisp and bracing, and the firmament glowed with its infinity of stars. Turning from this magnificent spectacle, what was my astonishment to see standing immediately under the great globe light, its beams lighting up every feature of his face distinctly as the day, Lieutenant Franklin Buchanan. There he stood, with form erect, both hands resting on his cane; the expression of his countenance calm, resolute and defiant.

The seamen gathered around him, and gave vent to their feelings in blasphemous oaths. One man remarked that he had been more than twenty years in the service; that he had fought at Tripoli; and had never been punished until ordered by Lieutenant Franklin Buchanan. Another said he was a tyrant; another that he was no seaman; another that he should be driven out of the service. But there he stood in statue-like repose, not a word escaping his lips. He seemed rooted to the deck. For full five minutes or more he braved the tempest, but not a man dared lay the weight of his finger upon him. Quietly and gracefully he turned upon his heel, and passed down the stairway through the

long passage into the after-cabin, and went to bed. The men on deck resolved they would kill him in Baltimore.

On the following morning we reached Baltimore about 11 o'clock. The passengers, along with Buchanan, his two or three naval friends, and the seamen, all went ashore together; but I heard no threat, and there was no attempt at a disturbance.

In continuation of my journey, I left Baltimore the following morning by a steamer that took us to some unnameable place at that time, but looking at the later maps, is now called Bohemia, on the eastern shore of Chesapeake Bay. At that place we debarked to go on board a canal-boat that carried us across the isthmus to a point called Delaware City, on the western shore of Delaware Bay. We had in our somewhat limited accommodations about thirty passengers, including Lieutenant Buchanan and his two or three naval friends, and about twenty of the Constellation seamen. It was growing late, and the bitter cold drove almost every one under deck. The presence of Buchanan and his approximation again stirred up the wrath of the seamen. They growled and grumbled audibly, using a good deal of threatening and profane language. One big, black-whiskered fellow went so far as to pull out a very formidable knife, felt the keenness of its edge, boasted of his being the son of a butcher, and knowing where to strike. The passengers had submitted to a good deal of annoyance, but had now become alarmed, and demanded of the captain of the boat that the most turbulent of these men should be put ashore. No sooner said than done, for the captain was a resolute fellow. He stopped the boat and hustled some five or six of the ringleaders out upon the bank. At this moment Buchanan came to the front. He gave the captain his name, said he was the object of their hate, and that if these men, who were returning to their homes, their families, and their friends after a three-years' absence in the Mediterranean, should be left out upon the bank, they were like little children, would not know where to go, and would most probably perish with the cold. Take them back, and he would guarantee their good behaviour. I call to mind vividly the fixedness of the captain's eye. He paused a few moments and then told the men to go on board. As they passed in I overheard Buchanan muttering to them something about behaving like men, the honor of the service, etc., etc. And they did behave well, for I heard one of the men say Buchanan was not such a mean fellow after all. We finally reached Delaware City, as it was called, and went on board of a noble steamer, as well as I can recollect called the William Penn. We found a number of passengers on board, which was afterwards increased by a stoppage at New Castle.

We soon got under weigh again, and had proceeded possibly some fifteen or twenty miles, when the passengers below were



startled by a terrible concussion that almost threw them from their seats. The cry was the boiler had burst, and everybody, myself among the number, who were curious to know, hurried out on deck. The crowd took a forward direction, and on reaching there I found we had run afoul of a sloop, that her mast was then lying across our bow, along which one of the sailors had come on board, who informed us that the captain, his daughter, and a sailor were yet on the sloop. Orders were given for the steamer to back, a boat to be gotten out, when I heard Buchanan calling at the top of his voice, "Where are the men of the Constellation?" In less than a minute, it seemed, Buchanan, the captain, and a half-dozen sailors were in the boat. They rowed for the sloop, which they found had keeled over, the captain and the sailor on the outside, but the captain's daughter, it was said at the time of the accident, was in her berth. The boat was sent back for an axe and a saw.

We heard the noise of both as they were vigorously plied, for the wind was blowing strongly from the north, and the spray of the waves as it dashed over the bows of the steamer, such was the severity of the cold, seemed almost immediately to congeal. A few minutes later the boat came alongside, with the girl in the arms of Buchanan, a raving maniac. Startled by the lights and the number of persons leaning over the side of the steamer, she made a desperate and nearly successful effort to throw herself overboard. She was soon raised to the deck, however, and immediately carried into the cabin, where several doctors, who were present, tendered their services, and the kind ministrations of the ladies were freely offered in the way of restoratives and dry clothing. But on arriving at Philadelphia an hour or two later, I was sorry to learn that her reason had not been restored.

The last I saw of Buchanan on this occasion was when drying his clothing by the stove in the cabin. A tall, dark-complexioned man came towards him, and said something to him in an undertone, to which he made a quick reply, "I'll be there directly." A few minutes later I saw him enter a stateroom, put on a heavy overcoat, and pass out.

In the spring of 1862—thirty years later—I was about leaving my house for an evening's walk, and had gone but a short distance when I met a couple of gentlemen, one of whom I knew, who stopped me and introduced me to his friend, Commodore Franklin Buchanan. After a few minutes' conversation I suggested if they would return with me to my house it would give me great pleasure to give them a nice glass of wine. The invitation was accepted, and they did so. After taking our seats at the table the conversation naturally turned upon the great war in which we were then engaged, and its probable results. Taking advantage of a pause, I said to the Commodore that though of his own knowledge he had never seen me before, yet we were not wholly unacquainted. He

asked me when, where, and in what way; and I narrated what I have already done for my reader. He laughed heartily as I progressed, and then said to me, "But you did not see the *finale*." I told him no, when he went on to say that the dark-complexioned man to whom I have alluded came up to him and said the men of the Constellation would be pleased to see him in the forward cabin. "As this man said he had been punished at my instigation during our cruise, I felt his presence whenever he came near me, for he rarely spoke, never drank, and go where I would I always found, whenever I looked towards him, his eyes were upon me. So near as we were to Philadelphia, I thought the men had come to the conclusion that their opportunity for taking my life was drawing to a close. I therefore stepped into a state-room, where I had placed some of my luggage, put on my overcoat, and a pistol in each pocket. I went immediately into the forward cabin, where, drawn up in a body, were the seamen, and to my inquiry what was wanted, the dark-complexioned man said to me that as they were about to separate, and perhaps never see each other again, it was best that they should do so in peace rather than anger, and proposed to drink my health. 'With all my heart,' was the reply. We drank together and they gave me three cheers."

H.

## ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

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16, l. 2, I find that Savage gives the date of baptism; his date of birth may therefore be more reliable than that deduced from the Borden record.

16, l. 3, 1614 should be 1610.

18-19, From the Address of the Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, published in the *Proceedings on Unveiling the Monument to Cæsar Rodney*, at Dover, Oct. 30, 1889, p. 24, I find that the incident here related is from a letter of Thomas McKean to John Adams, Aug. 20, 1815.

19, note 3, for Adam's read Adams'.

22, l. 25, *et seq.*, Compare a letter of Cæsar Rodney to his brother Thomas, Aug. 28, 1776, Force's *Am. Archives*, V. i. 1192.

28, note 4, for *Scharf and Westcott*, p. 321, read p. 312.

39, Plate and in Preface. The clauses in the Domestic Journal which are omitted in the published copies, may be found in Force's *American Archives*, IV. vi, 1731; in which is given what is more properly the *Proceedings* in Congress than a *Journal*, for it is compiled from various sources. When writing pages 41 *et seq.* of the text, I did not know the high authority attaching to these clauses; or I should have made use of another argument which they furnish, to prove that John Hancock had nothing to do with the preparation or authentication of the printed broadside. The resolutions are not addressed to him either personally or as President of Congress, and moreover it will be remarked that the expression here made use of is not that the declaration be *signed* but *authenticated*.

46. The letter of Cæsar Rodney above referred to, *Am. Archives*, V. i, 1192, gives the exact dates when Thomas McKean returned to Philadelphia from the army, and when he left for Newcastle. The letter is dated Phila., Aug. 28, 1776, and states that Mr. McKean arrived on *Sunday night last*, and left yesterday morning. This date, I have computed, fell upon *Wednesday*; he therefore arrived on the 25th and left on Tuesday the 27th.

48-9. Stone's fac-simile of the Declaration. In the *Annals of Congress*, Gales and Seaton, (18 Cong. 1st ses. 1823-4, vol. i. 82, 431, 779, 915; ii. 2711) it is stated that under date of Jan. 1, 1824, John Quincy Adams, then Secretary of State, informs the Senate and House that an exact fac-simile of the Declaration has

been made on copper, and 200 copies struck off, which are at the disposal of Congress. By resolution, these were distributed—two copies each to the surviving Signers, to the Marquis de Lafayette, to the President, to the late President Mr. Madison, etc., etc. But three signers were alive at this time; and Sander-son in his life of Charles Carroll mentions the copy sent to that gentleman. The copy in possession of Commodore McKean's family, can now be identified as one of these, and I am informed that there is a tradition in the family that it is one of a number distributed to the Signers. Inquiry at the State Department elicits the fact that the copper plate is not now in the possession of the Department and its whereabouts is unknown.

65, note 1, Add to the list of works containing but *twelve* names, Scharf's *Hist. Maryland*, 1879, ii. 465.

81, note 2, for vol. iii, read ii.

82, l. 2, for Ingersol, read Ingersoll.

117, l. 11, for two, read too.

127, l. 15, for Ann, read Anne, but retain Ann in l. 19.

135, l. 1, for Colbett, read Cobbett.

143, l. 33, for Grumbleton, read Grumbleton.

162, l. 42, for Phillipe, read Philippe.

171, l. 35, for General Wood, read Wool.

173, l. 10, transfer reference <sup>1</sup> to line 11.

181, l. 27, for James Hambleton, read James P. Hambleton.

183, heavy type, for Ann, read Anne.

201, Nichan Iftikhar, is spelled variously; *Nichan* is the Turkish and Tunisian word for *decoration*, etc., and Iftikhar is the name of the order; the term means *Signe de la gloire*.

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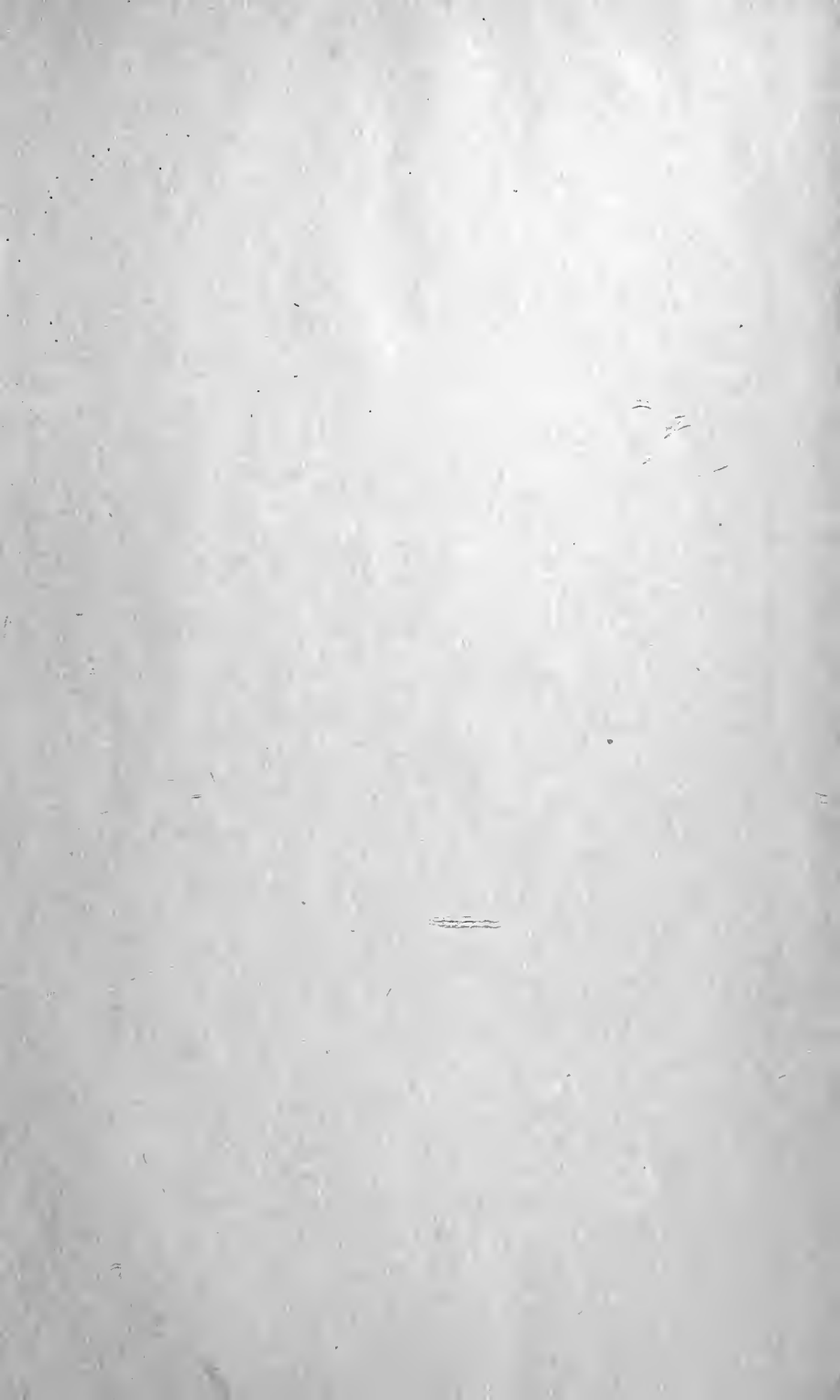


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